



## Pedorthic Programs

### St. Petersburg College ★

St. Petersburg, Florida

[www.spcollege.edu/orthotics-ceu](http://www.spcollege.edu/orthotics-ceu)

### Francis Tuttle Technology Center

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

[www.francistuttle.edu/classOfferings](http://www.francistuttle.edu/classOfferings)

### Kennesaw State University

Marietta, Georgia

[www.ccpe.kennesaw.edu/pedorthics](http://www.ccpe.kennesaw.edu/pedorthics)

Visit [www.opcareers.org](http://www.opcareers.org) for the most current program information.

★ HOPE Careers Consortium member



# For More Information

Take the first steps to a new and rewarding career. Visit [www.hopecareers.org](http://www.hopecareers.org) or [www.opcareers.org](http://www.opcareers.org).

## HOPE Careers Consortium



The HOPE Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics Careers Consortium is a partnership of five institutions:

- Baker College in Flint, Michigan
- Century College in White Bear Lake, Minnesota
- Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology in Okmulgee, Oklahoma
- Spokane Falls Community College in Spokane, Washington
- St. Petersburg College in St. Petersburg, Florida

Together, we are building exciting new programs that provide valuable career education and training in orthotics, prosthetics, and pedorthics (O&P). There is an urgent need in the U.S. to expand the pipeline of workers qualified to serve individuals living with limb loss or disabilities due to chronic disease or war-related injury—and our programs focus on that need.

Through this partnership, we are advancing O&P education and career training by increasing the number of key credentials offered and matching them to the skills required by O&P employers to better prepare TAA-eligible workers, veterans, and other adults for high-wage, highly skilled employment in O&P occupations.

All five of the HOPE Careers Consortium colleges offer occupational training leading to industry-recognized certifications and college degrees in the O&P profession. For more information, visit [www.hopecareers.org](http://www.hopecareers.org) or [www.opcareers.org](http://www.opcareers.org).

For more information on a member school, click its logo below.



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# Pedorthists



## Orthotics and Prosthetics

# MAKE A CAREER OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE



## Pedorthists

Pedorthics is the science and practice of evaluating, fabricating, and delivering footwear and foot orthoses to prevent, ease, or treat painful or disabling conditions of the foot and ankle caused by disease, congenital defect, overuse, or injury. Pedorthists play a crucial role on the healthcare team.

Patients may visit a pedorthist because they suffer from foot problems including calluses, diabetic ulcers, arthritis, or sports injuries that affect their ability to walk. Pedorthists can help patients avoid surgery by creating or modifying footwear as part of an overall treatment plan. This footwear can be crucial to restoring mobility or simply making shoes more comfortable.

Pedorthists select, modify, or fabricate footwear to help people maintain or regain as much mobility as possible. Footwear items may include foot orthoses, shoes, boots, slippers, sandals, socks, hosiery, night splints, bandages, braces, partial-foot prostheses, or other devices. Footwear adjustments can be made inside or outside a shoe.

Pedorthists work in settings such as specialty shoe stores, orthotic and prosthetic patient care facilities, VA facilities, and rehabilitation facilities.

## A career as a pedorthist

To become a pedorthist, you must have a high school diploma, GED, or college degree. You must then complete a pedorthic pre-certification education course that covers the study of human anatomy, pathology, and biomechanical evaluation of medical conditions that originate at or below the ankle, as well as footwear fitting, lower-limb orthotic design, manufacture and materials, shoe construction and modification, and patient and practice management.

You must also complete 1,000 hours of pedorthic patient care experience either before or after the pre-certification course.

To obtain certification in pedorthics, you must pass an exam from the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics (ABC) or the Board of Certification/Accreditation, International (BOC). To learn more about certification, visit the ABC website at [www.abcop.org](http://www.abcop.org) or the BOC website at [www.bocusa.org](http://www.bocusa.org).

## Is this career right for you?

First and foremost, an ideal candidate has a passion for helping others. Other important qualities include:

- Aptitude for math and science
- Compassion
- Creativity
- Dedication
- Excellent hand skills
- Problem-solving abilities
- Strong interpersonal skills

If you are interested in learning more about a career as a pedorthist, intern, job shadow, or volunteer at a facility in your area. You'll get a sense of day-to-day tasks and make valuable contacts that can benefit you throughout your career.

**For more information about O&P careers, visit [www.opcareers.org](http://www.opcareers.org).**

## Patients need pedorthists

# 83.6%

of the U.S. population will be overweight or obese by 2030<sup>1</sup>

# 67,000,000

Americans estimated to have arthritis by 2030, including 300,000 children<sup>2</sup>



# 1,527,894

People who are otherwise healthy who each year suffer from foot and ankle injuries and receive treatment in emergency departments<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Wang Y, Beydoun MA, Liang L, et al. Will all Americans become overweight or obese? Estimating the progression and cost of the US obesity epidemic. *Obesity* 2008;16(10):2323-2330.

<sup>2</sup>Understanding Arthritis. Arthritis Foundation website [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org). Accessed March 20, 2015.

<sup>3</sup>Consumer Protection Safety Commission. "National Electronic Injury Surveillance System Data Highlights - 2012." 2013.