



STUDIES PROVE IT:

Pets benefit your health – they can help lower blood pressure, increase mental alertness, lower incidence of depression and increase overall well being.

Through the Oakland University School of Nursing new online program, you can earn a certificate in animal assisted therapy and put these benefits to work for those in need.



FIND OUT MORE TODAY

Register online: www.oakland.edu/nursing

Call: (248) 370-4065

E-mail: johnson2@oakland.edu



School of Nursing
Institute for the Advancement of
Nursing and Health Care
447 O'Dowd Hall
Rochester, Michigan 48309-4401

ONLINE
Animal Assisted Therapy
Certificate Program



SCHOOL OF NURSING
Institute for the Advancement of
Nursing and Health Care

Taught by multidisciplinary professionals, Oakland's animal assisted therapy program helps fulfill the need for alternative, innovative and holistic health care practices. In addition, animal assisted therapy addresses several social issues, such as:

- providing educational, therapeutic and health benefits for at-risk children and adolescents, the elderly and other special-needs populations
- helping patients in nursing homes, counseling centers and hospitals

A SPECIAL BOND

OU's academic approach to animal therapy will help you develop an overall understanding of the human-animal bond and healing implications with vulnerable populations. You'll learn:

- how to incorporate animal assisted therapy in current practices
- how animal assisted research applies to real-life applications
- what the difference is between animal assisted therapy and pet therapy
- how to gain a theoretical framework for animal assisted therapy interventions
- how to start your own non-profit organization
- where to volunteer and much more



COUNTLESS BENEFITS

Animal assisted therapy offers a positive behavioral support intervention for young people with severe emotional or behavioral problems as well as provides emotional, psychological and physiological support for the critically ill, elderly, physically impaired and more. The difference you'll make in the lives of others will be extremely rewarding. But Oakland's program is not just beneficial to those on the receiving end. This program also benefits:

- **volunteers** – enhance credibility and solidify the ability to help humans and animals
- **entrepreneurs** – increase opportunities to receive financing
- **non-profit organizations** – improve likelihood of receiving grants
- **clinicians** – provide clear rationale and scientific data to begin a program at your facility
- **everyone** – looks good on a resume!

REAL-WORLD HEALING

Animal assisted therapy has also been effective in nursing homes, counseling centers and hospitals. A diverse range of people can apply animal assisted therapy to their professional careers, including:

- nurses
- teachers
- counselors
- physical therapists
- sociologists
- and more



BUT THAT'S NOT ALL

Oakland's program focuses on the powerful synergy between humans and animals, and the healing implications for both. This program is open to anyone who is interested in the healing power of animals – from professionals in the workforce to stay-at-home parents who engage in community service. You do not have to be a current OU student to participate.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Oakland's animal assisted therapy program includes five eight-week modules:

Module 1 – Introduction to Animal Assisted Therapy

Module 2 – Psychology of Animal Assisted Therapy

Module 3 – Working with Special Populations

Module 4 – Working with Animals

Module 5 – Capstone Project



Note: This program will not certify your dog as a therapy dog.