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Osteopathic Medical Education Program Brochure

Nova Southeastern University

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Osteopathic Medical Education

A D.O., or doctor of osteopathic medicine, is a complete physician, fully trained and licensed to prescribe medication, perform surgery, and utilize manipulative therapy.

Osteopathic medicine emphasizes the relationship among the body's nerves, muscles, bones and organs. The osteopathic philosophy of treating the whole person is applied to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of illness, disease and injury.

Osteopathic Medical Education

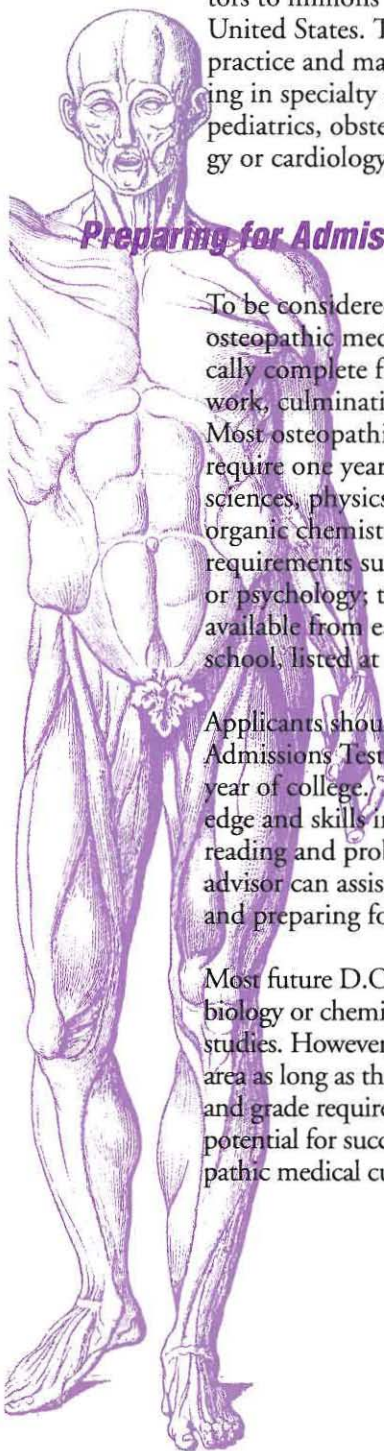
Osteopathic physicians serve as family doctors to millions of people throughout the United States. They first train in general practice and many receive additional training in specialty areas such as psychiatry, pediatrics, obstetrics, surgery, ophthalmology or cardiology.

Preparing for Admission

To be considered for admission to one of 15 osteopathic medical schools, applicants typically complete four years of undergraduate work, culminating in a bachelor's degree. Most osteopathic medical schools also require one year each of English, biological sciences, physics, general chemistry and organic chemistry. Some schools have other requirements such as genetics, mathematics or psychology; these are listed in the catalogs available from each osteopathic medical school, listed at the end of this brochure.

Applicants should take the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) during their junior year of college. The MCAT examines knowledge and skills in areas such as biology, math, reading and problem-solving. A pre-med advisor can assist applicants in scheduling and preparing for this examination.

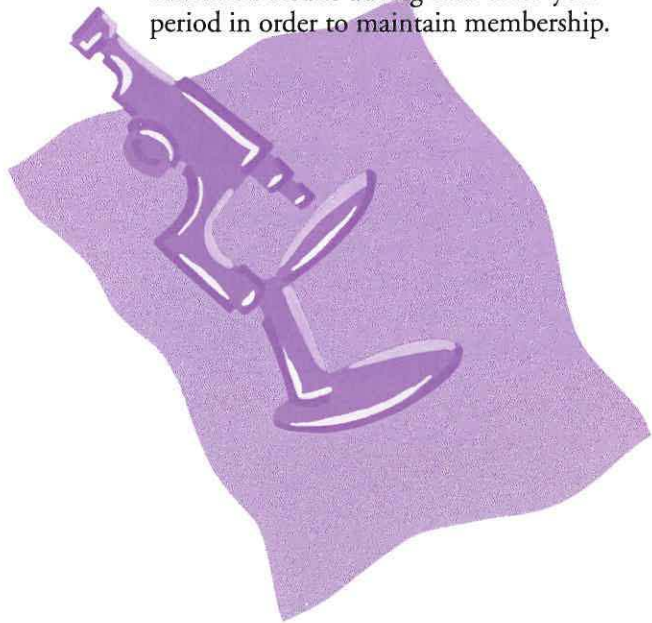
Most future D.O.s major in sciences, such as biology or chemistry, in their undergraduate studies. However, applicants may major in any area as long as they meet the minimum course and grade requirements, and demonstrate their potential for successfully completing an osteopathic medical curriculum.



Prospective osteopathic medical students must also exhibit a genuine concern for people. Osteopathic medicine is a people-oriented profession that demands dedicated and empathetic individuals. Osteopathic colleges require a personal interview to assess the applicant's communication skills and learn more about why that person wants to become an osteopathic physician. The applicant may wish to spend some time with a D.O. or do volunteer work in health-care before applying

Continuing Medical Education

Continuing Medical Education, as the term implies, is a lifetime commitment to learning by osteopathic physicians in full recognition of the fact that the study of medicine does not end with graduation from medical school. The American Osteopathic Association requires its members to complete a specified number of continuing medical education credits during each three-year period in order to maintain membership.



Osteopathic Medical Colleges

**Chicago College of
Osteopathic Medicine**
5200 South Ellis Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60615
(312) 947-3000

555 31st Street
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515
(708) 971-6080

**College of Osteopathic
Medicine of the Pacific**
College Plaza
Pomona, California 91766
(714) 623-6116

**Kirkville College of
Osteopathic Medicine**
800 West Jefferson
Kirkville, Missouri 63501
(816) 626-2121

**Michigan State University
College of Osteopathic
Medicine**
East Fee Hall
East Lansing, Michigan 48824
(517) 355-9611

**New York College of
Osteopathic Medicine**
New York Institute of
Technology
Box 170
Old Westbury
Long Island, New York 11568
(516) 626-6947

**Ohio University College of
Osteopathic Medicine**
Grosvenor Hall
Athens, Ohio 45701
(614) 593-1800

**College of Osteopathic Medicine
of Oklahoma State University**
1111 West 17th Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74107
(918) 582-1972

**Philadelphia College of
Osteopathic Medicine**
4150 City Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19131
(215) 871-1000

**Southeastern University of
Health Sciences**
College of Osteopathic
Medicine
1750-60 N.E. 168th Street
North Miami Beach, Florida
33162
(305) 949-4000

**Texas College of
Osteopathic Medicine**
3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard
Fort Worth, Texas 76107
(817) 735-2000

**University of Health Sciences,
College of Osteopathic Medicine**
2105 Independence Boulevard
Kansas City, Missouri 64124
(816) 283-2000

**University of Medicine &
Dentistry of New Jersey, School
of Osteopathic Medicine**
40 East Laurel Road
Stratford, New Jersey 08084
(609) 346-6990

**University of New England,
College of Osteopathic
Medicine**
11 Hills Beach Road
Biddeford, Maine 04005
(207) 283-0171

**University of Osteopathic
Medicine and Health Sciences**
College of Osteopathic
Medicine and Surgery
3200 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50312
(515) 271-1400

**West Virginia School of
Osteopathic Medicine**
400 North Lee Street
Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901
(304) 645-6270

**Lake Erie College of
Osteopathic Medicine**
1858 West Grandview Boulevard
Erie, Pennsylvania 16509
(814) 866-6641

The D.O. Curriculum

The first two years of the osteopathic medical curriculum focus on basic sciences such as anatomy and physiology, often enhanced by early exposure to clinical work. The third and fourth years emphasize the clinical work and much of the teaching takes place in community hospitals, major medical centers and doctors' offices.

During these clinical years, students study areas such as general practice, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, surgery and pediatrics. Students rotate through urban, suburban and rural settings, experiencing all areas of medicine.

Osteopathic principles and practices are integrated throughout the four-year curriculum. Students learn to use osteopathic techniques for diagnosis and treatment of disease, as well as for disease prevention. The curriculum emphasizes the relationship of body systems and holistic patient care.

Postdoctoral Training & Licensure

Following graduation, D.O.s must complete an approved 12-month internship. Interns rotate through major hospital departments such as internal medicine, general practice and surgery. Many D.O.s then choose to take a residency program in a specialty area, requiring two to six years of additional training.

D.O.s are licensed for the full practice of medicine and surgery in each of the 50 states. Each state determines the tests and procedures for licensing physicians in that state. In some states, the same tests are given to D.O.s and M.D.s; other states administer separate licensing exams.

For More Information

For more information about osteopathic medicine contact the American Osteopathic Association, 142 East Ontario Street, Chicago, IL 60611 (800-621-1773). Ask for the brochures "What is a D.O.?" and "Osteopathic Medicine."

For more information about admission to a college of osteopathic medicine, contact the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, 6110 Executive Boulevard, Suite 405, Rockville, MD 20852 (301-468-0990).

Financial assistance is offered through several state osteopathic medical associations, the National Osteopathic Foundation, the U.S. Public Health Service, the Armed Forces and the Auxiliary to the AOA.

142 E. Ontario St., Chicago, Il 60611
312/280-5800 800/621-1773



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

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