2009

College of Osteopathic Medicine Program Overview

Nova Southeastern University

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Nova Southeastern University, synonymous with dynamic innovation and intellectual challenge, is the largest independent not-for-profit university in the Southeast, and with an enrollment of more than 27,000 students, is the **sixth largest** in the United States. Situated on a beautiful, 300-acre campus in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, the university is experiencing a sustained period of academic growth, fiscal strength, and commitment to the challenges of the 21st century.

In this environment of expansion and stability, the university is capitalizing on its strengths in such areas as academic innovation, comprehensive clinical training, and flexible educational delivery systems.

Founded in 1964 as Nova University, the institution merged with Southeastern University of the Health Sciences in 1994, creating Nova Southeastern University. To date, the institution has approximately **98,000 alumni**. Fully accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the university awards associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees in a wide range of fields including the health professions, law, business, marine sciences, psychology, social sciences, computer and information sciences, and education.

The university's programs are administered through **15 academic centers** that offer courses at the main campus and at field-based locations throughout Florida; across the nation; and at selected international sites in Europe, Mexico, the Pacific Rim, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

With a budget of more than $220 million per year and an upward trend in enrollment, the university will continue to maintain a solid record of academic and fiscal strength and excellence in teaching and community service, while expanding its mission in research and scholarship.
As a student in the Health Professions Division of Nova Southeastern University, you can anticipate a remarkable experience. You will train, study, interact, and share faculty and resources (either campus-based or online) with students from various backgrounds and disciplines. This interdisciplinary approach distinguishes the Health Professions Division as unique and will better prepare you to master your discipline with a sensitivity and understanding of the entire health care system.

The Health Professions Division, with a student body of more than 2,500, is home to six colleges. The College of Osteopathic Medicine, the first one in the southeastern United States, grants the doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.) degree. The College of Osteopathic Medicine also awards the master of public health (M.P.H.) and the master of science in biomedical informatics (M.S.BI) degrees. The College of Pharmacy offers the doctor of pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree to entry-level, international, and postbaccalaureate students. The College of Optometry is the only institution in the state of Florida that awards the doctor of optometry (O.D.) degree as well as the master in clinical vision research (M.S.). The College of Allied Health and Nursing offers an entry-level bachelor of science degree in nursing (B.S.N.), as well as an R.N. to B.S.N. program, a master of science in nursing (M.S.N.) degree, a post-M.S.N. certificate, and a Ph.D. in nursing education. The college offers a physician assistant program that awards the master of medical science (M.M.S.) degree in physician assistant, as well as a master of occupational therapy (M.O.T.) degree and the entry-level doctor of physical therapy (D.P.T.) degree. Doctoral programs are offered in occupational therapy (Ph.D./O.T., Dr.O.T), physical therapy (Ph.D./P.T., D.P.T.), and audiology (Au.D.). In addition to these programs, the College of Allied Health and Nursing offers the bachelor of health science (B.H.Sc.), master of health science (M.H.Sc.), and doctor of health science (D.H.Sc.) degrees—open to midlevel clinicians and allied health professionals. There are also courses of study in bachelor of health science—vascular sonography and master of health science—anesthesiologist assistant. The College of Medical Sciences grants the master of biomedical sciences (M.B.S.) degree. In the fall of 1997, the College of Dental Medicine admitted its charter class into the doctor of dental medicine (D.M.D.) program. Now, the college also offers a master of science in dentistry (M.Sc.D.) degree, as well as postgraduate programs in endodontics, oral surgery, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, and prosthodontics.

The Health Professions Division occupies a $70 million complex, covering 21 acres of the university campus. The division includes eight buildings totaling more than 900,000 square feet of space for classrooms, laboratories, offices, the Health Professions Division Library, an outpatient health center, and a pharmaceutical care center. The adjacent 1,500-vehicle parking garage overlooks the Miami Dolphins Training Camp.
If you wish to be a leader in the health professions, Nova Southeastern University can help you reach your potential.

In less than two decades, NSU’s Health Professions Division has developed into a multidisciplinary academic health center of international stature. Composed of the Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, Pharmacy, Dental Medicine, Optometry, Allied Health and Nursing, and Medical Sciences, the Health Professions Division has redoubled its commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and community service, while expanding its mission in research and scholarship. Working together, our distinguished faculty members prepare students for an exciting career on tomorrow’s dynamic health care team.

Fred Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D.
Chancellor
If you are considering a career as a doctor of osteopathic medicine, enormous opportunities to practice modern medicine await you. For the osteopathic physician, a patient is much more than a presenting symptom. Each person is a complete human being to be evaluated with consideration to his or her entire background.

The osteopathic model is comprehensive and holistic and demands that its practitioners possess both humanitarian and intellectual qualities. It encourages a broad educational background in both the sciences and the humanities.

Two types of physicians are licensed to practice medicine in all 50 states: the doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.) and the doctor of medicine (M.D.). While both types of physicians are trained in all aspects of patient care, D.O.s offer a distinctly holistic approach to medicine.

Osteopathic medicine is a profession that recognizes the relationship between physical structure (musculoskeletal) and organic function. Osteopathic physicians view the human body as an interdependent unit rather than an assortment of separate parts and systems. Osteopathic medicine is distinguished by

- an emphasis on primary care
- use of osteopathic manipulative medicine when indicated
- a tradition of caring for patients in underserved rural and urban areas

While all medical, surgical, and obstetric specialties are represented within our profession, the training of vitally needed family physicians and the drive to reach rural, minority, geriatric, and indigent populations make our program unique.

A dynamic career awaits committed individuals. We invite your inquiries.

**FAST FACTS**

In September 2005, NSU-COM's Center for Bioterrorism and All-Hazards Preparedness took another step toward statewide preeminence when it received two U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grants. The grants, totaling $4.8 million, target interdisciplinary bioterrorism preparedness curriculum development and continuing education.

The college recently partnered with the Florida Department of Corrections to launch the first-ever correctional medicine fellowship in the world.

The College of Osteopathic Medicine offers students invaluable opportunities to participate in humanitarian missions and work with underserved populations in Ecuador, Guatemala, and Jamaica.
For students pursuing their education at Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine (NSU-COM), the matriculation experience has proven to be both challenging and rewarding.

By combining the most contemporary teaching modalities with the newest technology, our students are assured of obtaining the most comprehensive education possible.

However, while providing a cutting-edge curriculum is important in today's ever-changing landscape, one of the keys to our success is best illustrated by the dedicated faculty members who impart that education to the students. We have a diverse faculty. Our faculty members have many backgrounds, different degrees, various specialties, and wide-ranging educational experiences. Rather than being a detriment, these differences have instead produced a robust educational engine that is driving the college in a very beneficial way—a fact that is reflected in our students' productivity academically, personally, and professionally.

Leading by example and serving as mentors; that is how the NSU-COM faculty brings out the best in our students. This is amply demonstrated by our faculty's caring, compassion, and willingness to devote copious amounts of time to various community activities, as well as local and international medical missions. The faculty's positive impact on our student body is also evidenced by the high level of esteem our students are receiving from outside institutions. As NSU-COM dean, it is deeply gratifying to see how desired our students are by various institutions and programs, and how they are being actively recruited for clinical positions, postgraduate residency programs, and the community at large.

I truly believe that faculty participation at all levels of academia and the opportunity for faculty to analyze, dissect, and recommend all aspects of our students' education is what's responsible for the implementation of so many educational innovations that have helped boost the college's academic reputation. Thanks to the synergistic energy of our students, faculty members, and staff members of all our programs, the pursuit of excellence has become a daily reality at NSU-COM.

Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine
DOCTORAL PROGRAM

COURSE OF STUDY

The doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.) is a professional degree that requires four years of professional study. Our innovative curriculum is designed to fulfill our mission of training physicians with an emphasis in primary care. Its design is based on successful academic models, which are carefully developed and integrated.

The unique curriculum provides academic and clinical training that prepares students for the real world of medicine. It will make you more competitive for post-doctoral training positions and more attractive to those interviewing candidates for those positions.

A notable aspect of our clinical training program is a three-month clinical rotation at a rural setting where many residents have little access to health care. You will learn to treat various cultural and ethnic groups whose lifestyles and attitudes toward health care differ from those you will see in more traditional training sites. It is an enriching educational experience.

doctor of osteopathic medicine
The college receives more than 2,500 applications a year, from which only 230 students are chosen. These students have varied backgrounds, and while many enter the college directly from an undergraduate program, other students come from successful careers. Entering students have included pharmacists, physician assistants, nurses, teachers, pilots, and engineers.

The Committee on Admissions recommends applicants to the dean on the basis of demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, compassion, and commitment to the osteopathic medical profession.

ACCREDITATION AND NONDISCRIMINATION

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, Telephone number: 404-679-4501) to award associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees. Consistent with all federal and state laws, rules, regulations, and/or local ordinances (e.g., Title VII, Title VI, Title III, Title II, Rehab Act, ADA, and Title IX), it is the policy of Nova Southeastern University not to engage in any discrimination or harassment against any individuals because of race, color, religion or creed, sex, pregnancy status, national or ethnic origin, nondisqualifying disability, age, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, unfavorable discharge from the military, veteran status, or political beliefs or affiliations, and to comply with all federal and state nondiscrimination, equal opportunity, and affirmative action laws, orders, and regulations.

This nondiscrimination policy applies to admissions, enrollment, scholarships, loan programs, athletics, employment, and access to, participation in, and treatment in all university centers, programs, and activities. NSU admits students of any race, color, religion or creed, sex, pregnancy status, national or ethnic origin, nondisqualifying disability, age, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, unfavorable discharge from the military, veteran status, or political beliefs or affiliations, to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at NSU, and does not discriminate in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

The Master of Public Health Program is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), www.ceph.org.
curriculum outline*

first year

**FIRST SEMESTER CORE COURSES**
- Cellular and Molecular Biology
- Basic Life Support
- Clinical Practicum I
- IGC Preceptorship I
- Ethnocultural Medicine
- O P and P I
- Medical Physiology I

**ELECTIVE COURSES**
- Community Service
- Preclinical Preceptorship
- Research
- Guided Study

**SECOND SEMESTER CORE COURSES**
- Neuroscience
- Microbial Pathology and Therapeutics of Infectious Disease
- Introduction to Public Health
- IGC Preceptorship II
- Clinical Practicum II
- Principles of Radiology
- O P and P II
- Tobacco Cessation

**ELECTIVE COURSES**
- Community Service
- Research
- Preclinical Preceptorship
- Guided Study

second year

**FIRST SEMESTER CORE COURSES**
- End of Life Seminar
- HIV Seminar
- Clinical Medicine I
- Hematopoietic and Lymphoreticular System

IGC—Interdisciplinary Generalist Curriculum
O P and P—Osteopathic Principles and Practice

* Subject to change
Reproductive System
Cardiovascular System
Respiratory System
Endocrine System
IGC Preceptorship III
Integumentary System
Introduction to Complementary and Alternative Medicine
OP and P III
Principles of Pharmacology
Principles of Pathology
Gastrointestinal System

**ELECTIVE COURSES**
Community Service
Research
Guided Study
Preclinical Preceptorship

**SECOND SEMESTER CORE COURSES**
Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine
Medical Jurisprudence
Advanced Cardiac Life Support
Ped. Advanced Cardiac Life Support
Nervous System
Medical Ethics
Clinical Medicine II
Clinical Procedures
Musculoskeletal System
IGC Preceptorship IV
Renal/Urinary System
Preclerkship Seminar
OP and P IV

**ELECTIVE COURSES**
Guided Study
Research
Integration of Biomedical and Clinical Science
Preclinical Preceptorship
Community Service

**third year**

**DIDACTIC COURSES**
Geriatrics
Infectious Disease
Public Health

**CORE CLINICAL ROTATIONS**
Psychiatry
Geriatrics
Family Medicine I
Family Medicine II
Internal Medicine I
Internal Medicine II
Internal Medicine III
Obstetrics/Gynecology
Pediatrics—Ambulatory
Pediatrics—Hospital
General Surgery I
General Surgery II

**fourth year**

**CORE CLINICAL ROTATIONS**
Emergency Medicine
Rural Medicine I
Rural Medicine II
Rural Selective III

**ELECTIVE CLINICAL ROTATIONS**
Addiction Medicine
General Psychiatry
Board Review
Emergency Medicine
Geriatrics
Family Medicine
Osteopathic Manipulation Medicine
Osteopathic Principles and Practice Fellowship I
Rural Medicine
International Health I
Integration of Clinical Services
International Health II
General Internal Medicine
The Cardiac Patient Simulator—"Harvey"
Medical Intensive Care
Internal Medicine/Managed Care
Cardiology
Dermatology
Endocrinology
Gastroenterology
Hematology/Oncology
Infectious Diseases
Nuclear Medicine
Nephrology
Neurology
Rheumatology
Radiology
Obstetrics/Gynecology
Pain Management
General Pediatrics
Neonatology
Pediatric Subspecialty
Pediatric Emergency Medicine
Pediatric Infectious Diseases
Adolescent Medicine
Pediatric Intensive Care
Pediatric Sub-internship
Public Health
Clinical Pathology
Forensic Pathology
Anesthesiology
Cardiovascular Surgery
General Surgery
Surgical Intensive Care
Neurosurgery
Ophthalmology
Orthopedics
Proctology
Plastic/Reconstructive Surgery
Thoracic Surgery
Urology
Applicants for admission to the first-year class must meet the following requirements prior to matriculation:

1. have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university (A minimum of 90 semester hours of acceptable work from an accredited institution may be considered for admission.)

2. have successfully completed
   a. eight semester hours of each of the following:
      • General biology (including laboratory)
      • General chemistry (including laboratory)
      • Organic chemistry (including laboratory)
      • Physics (including laboratory)
   b. three semester hours of each of the following:
      • English literature
      • English composition

3. have taken the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

These are the minimum academic requirements for admission. Students are encouraged to take additional courses such as embryology, genetics, behavioral sciences, and the humanities.

Preference will be given to students with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale). However, the dean is empowered to evaluate the total qualifications of every student and to modify requirements in unusual circumstances.

Applications for the MCAT may be obtained online at www.aamc.org, from the college's preprofessional adviser's office, by calling (319) 337-1357, or by writing directly to

Medical College Admission Test
Program Office
2255 North Dubuque Road
P.O. Box 4056
Iowa City, Iowa 52243-4056

MCAT must have been taken, and scores received, no more than three years prior to the application cycle. This examination, offered twice a year, usually in August and April, evaluates the applicant's knowledge of biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, reading comprehension, and quantitative reasoning. We strongly recommend that the examination be taken in the spring of the junior year, so that if applicants feel that the test scores are unsatisfactory, they may retake the examination in the fall of the senior year. Only the best set of test scores will be considered.
**PRIMARY APPLICATION PROCESS**

The college participates in the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (AACOMAS) for the receipt and processing of all applications. AACOMAS takes no part in the selection of students.

Applicants may submit applications electronically through AACOMAS Online, an interactive Web-based application that can be accessed through www.aacom.org. Applicants choosing to submit a paper application may contact AACOMAS directly for an application packet at

AACOMAS
5550 Friendship Boulevard, Suite 310
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815-7231
(301) 968-4190

Listed below are the necessary steps to complete the primary application process.

The applicant should submit the following materials to AACOMAS:

- completed AACOMAS application
- an official transcript from the registrars of all colleges and universities attended. This must be mailed directly to AACOMAS by the college or university.
- MCAT scores (must be no more than three years old)

The AACOMAS application process may take four to six weeks. The deadline for submitting an AACOMAS application for NSU-COM is January 15.

**SECONDARY APPLICATION PROCESS**

Nova Southeastern University requires the completion of a secondary application. Upon receipt of the AACOMAS application, NSU-COM will forward an online secondary application to the student.

Listed in the following column are the necessary steps to complete the secondary application process.

The applicant should submit the following materials to Nova Southeastern University:

- a completed secondary application
- a nonrefundable application fee of $50
- a letter of evaluation from the preprofessional committee, or if such a committee does not exist, three letters of evaluation are necessary (two from science professors and one from a liberal arts professor)
- a letter of evaluation from a physician
The deadline date for submitting the secondary application for NSU-COM is March 1. It should be sent to

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Enrollment Processing Services (EPS)
College of Osteopathic Medicine
Office of Admissions
3301 College Avenue
P.O. Box 299000
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33329-9905

**INTERVIEW PROCESS**

A personal interview is a part of the admission process. However, being interviewed is not a guarantee of admission. Upon completion of the applicant’s file, a review will be made to determine if the candidate will be granted an interview. Not all applicants will be granted an interview, and only those applicants whose files are complete will be considered. The Office of Admissions will notify selected candidates of the date and time of the interview.

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE**

Notice of acceptance will be on a rolling or periodic schedule. Early completion of the application process is in the best interest of the student.

Send application and documentation to

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Enrollment Processing Services (EPS)
College of Osteopathic Medicine
Office of Admissions
3301 College Avenue
P.O. Box 299000
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33329-9905
Circumstances may warrant that a student enrolled in an osteopathic college seeks to transfer to another institution. Credits may be transferred from medical schools and colleges accredited by the American Osteopathic Association or by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) or from other professional schools if, in the opinion of the dean, these schools have provided coursework comparable to that of the NSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.

1. Transfers from a college of osteopathic medicine to another shall require that the last two years of instruction be completed within the college granting the D.O. degree.

2. Transfers from an LCME-accredited medical school or college shall require that no less than the last 50 percent of instruction be completed within the College of Osteopathic Medicine.

3. Transfer credits shall be given only if the student is in good academic standing in the previously attended college of osteopathic medicine or other medical school.

4. Credit is only given for completed courses with grades of 70 percent (C) or greater.

Anyone wishing to transfer to NSU College of Osteopathic Medicine must meet the following criteria:

1. complete a formal application to Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine Office of Admissions

2. satisfy all admission requirements to NSU College of Osteopathic Medicine, which include submitting official transcripts of all college work (including osteopathic transcripts); MCAT scores; National Board scores, if taken; and letters of evaluation

3. be in good standing at the transferring institution, as documented by a letter from the dean of the transferring institution

4. supply one letter of recommendation from a faculty member of the transferring osteopathic institution

5. supply a written statement outlining reasons for request to transfer

Decisions on transfer are made by the dean. The decision will be based on factors that include, but are not limited to, academic record, circumstances leading to the transfer request, available space, and admission standards. The College of Osteopathic Medicine will evaluate each credit and grant that which is appropriate, with total coursework and total tuition reduced appropriately.
The anticipated tuition for 2009–2010 (subject to change by the board of trustees without notice) is $31,045 for Florida residents and $37,325 for out-of-state students. A microscope/laboratory fee of $100 is required for first-year students. A Health Professions Division student access fee of $145 is required each year. An NSU student service fee of $750 is also required annually.

Eligible students must request in-state tuition on the application. For tuition purposes, a student's Florida residency status (in-state or out-of-state) will be determined based on initial matriculation and will remain the same throughout the entire enrollment of the student at NSU. Accordingly, tuition will not be adjusted as a result of any change in status after initial enrollment registration.

1. Acceptance Fee—$950. This fee is required to reserve the accepted applicant's place in the entering first-year class. This advance payment will be deducted from the tuition payment due on registration day, but is nonrefundable in the event of a withdrawal. Applicants accepted prior to November 15 will have until December 14 to pay this acceptance fee. Applicants accepted between November 15 and February 16 will have 30 days, and those accepted between February 16 and April 15 will pay the combined acceptance fee and deposit of $2,000 within 30 days after their acceptance. Anyone accepted on April 16 or later will pay the combined acceptance fee and deposit of $2,000 within 14 days after his or her acceptance.

2. Deposit—$1,050. This advance payment is due March 15. It will be deducted from the tuition payment, but is nonrefundable in the event of a withdrawal.

The first semester's tuition and fees, less the $2,000 previously paid, are due upon receipt of the NSU invoice. Students will be billed for each subsequent semester. Students will not be admitted until their financial obligations have been met. The financial ability of applicants to complete their training at the college is important because of the limited number of positions available in each class. Applicants should have specific plans for financing four years of professional education. This should include tuition, living expenses, books, equipment, and miscellaneous expenses.

It is required that each student carry adequate personal medical and hospital insurance. Students may avail themselves of the hospitalization insurance plan obtainable through the university.
Undergraduate coursework taken at a foreign institution must be evaluated for U.S. institution equivalence. Foreign coursework must be evaluated by one of the services listed below. You should contact one of the following:

World Education Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 745
Old Chelsea Station
New York, New York 10113-0745
(212) 966-6311 • www.wes.org

Josef Silny & Associates, Inc.
International Education Consultants
7101 SW 102 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33173
(305) 273-1616 • www.jsilny.com

Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
P.O. Box 514070
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203-3470
(414) 289-3400 • www.ece.org

It is the applicant's responsibility to have this coursework evaluated. An official evaluation must be sent to

Nova Southeastern University
Enrollment Processing Services (EPS)
College of Osteopathic Medicine
Office of Admissions
3301 College Avenue
P.O. Box 299000
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33329-9905

Numerous apartments, condominiums, and other rental facilities are located near campus. Limited on-campus housing is also available. Information concerning on- and off-campus housing may be obtained by contacting

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Office of Residential Life and Housing
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314-7796
(954) 262-7052