

DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE PROGRAM

Osteopathic medicine is a philosophy of health care that emphasizes the interrelationships of the body's systems in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of illness, disease and injury. The Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) is trained to use all clinical/scientific modalities to maintain and restore the health of patients. Based upon an increasing body of scientific evidence, osteopathic medicine emphasizes four main tenets as identified by the American Osteopathic Association:

- The body is a unit; the person is a unit of body, mind, and spirit.
- The body is capable of self-regulation, self-healing, and health maintenance.
- Structure and function are reciprocally interrelated.
- Rational treatment is based upon an understanding of the basic principles of body unity, self-regulation, and the interrelationship of structure and function.

The distinctive feature of osteopathic medicine is the recognition of the relationship between structure and function of the body. The osteopathic physician (D.O.) uses the developed skills of observation, definitive history taking, clinical judgment, manual medicine and other standard diagnostic and therapeutic procedures to recognize and treat pre-disease and disease states of the body. Treatment of the whole patient, rather than the disease process, is the primary consideration.

Program Requirements

To be considered for admission, applicants must have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university prior to the start of orientation.

Applicants must submit entrance exam (e.g., MCAT) scores during the application process; MCAT scores must be within three years of matriculation. Required courses must be completed before registration. The minimum grades recommended for application are a 2.8 cumulative GPA and a 2.8 science GPA on a 4.0 scale, and at least a "C" in each of the following prerequisite areas:

Subject	Required Course(s) or Term Hours
Biology/Zoology	8 semester hours, with lab
General Chemistry	8 semester hours, with lab
Organic Chemistry	4 semester hours, with lab
Biochemistry	3 semester hours
Physics	8 semester hours, with lab (may substitute 3 semester hours of Statistics)
English: Comp/Literature/Speech	6 semester hours

Other recommended course work includes cell biology, microbiology, immunology, genetics, physiology and anatomy. Students must be able to successfully achieve the instructional goals of the college and pass both written and practical examinations in all areas, including clinical medicine, patient care, osteopathic manual medicine, Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS). Refer to the technical standards in this section.

Additional information can be found on the DO Program Admissions Requirements website (<https://www.dmu.edu/do/admission-requirements>).

Program Application Process

Application to the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Program is accepted through the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (AACOMAS), which is a centralized application service. In addition, three letters of recommendation are required to complete the file prior to review by the Admission Committee.

Detailed information regarding the process can be found on the DO program admissions website (<https://www.dmu.edu/do/how-to-apply>).

The Admissions Committee will select the most competitive applicants to participate in an on-campus interview (<https://www.dmu.edu/do/how-to-apply/interview-day>). Following the interview, the Admissions Committee will review applicant files and interview results to make decisions. Generally, applicants will receive a response to their application within three weeks of the interview.

Students wishing to be considered for transfer into the DO program from another college of medicine (osteopathic or allopathic) must meet the following criteria:

- Student must be ranked in the upper 50% of his/her current medical school class.
- Student must submit a supportive letter of recommendation from the dean of his/her current medical school stating student is in good academic standing.
- Student is enrolled in a COCA- or LCME-accredited medical school.
- Student must have a cogent reason for requesting transfer.
- Student is willing to participate in a personal interview on our campus at the discretion of the Chair of the Admissions Committee.
- The Associate Dean of Academic Curriculum and Medical Programs and a committee of COM course directors will review the applicant's transcript and determine where transfer credit will be given and what courses will be required for completion prior to graduation.
- Student requesting transfer from other COMs must have passed COMPLEX Level 1 of NBOME (or USMLE Step 1 if from an allopathic school).
- Student from an LCME-accredited medical school must meet all DMU-COM OMM requirements prior to graduation.
- Student must be enrolled at DMU a minimum of two years and meet all graduation requirements of the Student Handbook.
- Student has not been convicted of a felony or found guilty of professional or moral misconduct.
- Student must complete a criminal background check and drug screen.

Additional information regarding transfer admission can be reviewed on the website (<https://www.dmu.edu/do/admission-requirements/transfer-students>).

Students who have completed coursework in the Master of Health Care Administration (MHA), Master of Public Health (MPH), Master of Science in Anatomy (MSA) or Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences (MSBS) program and are accepted into the DO program may petition to receive advanced standing for courses completed in the initial program. A maximum of 12.0 advanced standing credit hours can be requested. Courses must have been completed within the last two years

and students must have earned a minimum of a “B” grade in order to be considered for advanced standing credit. Additional information regarding advanced standing credit can be reviewed in the Advanced Standing Credit policy.

Curriculum Overview and Outline

The curriculum for the D.O. degree is a four-year program that provides comprehensive preparation for graduate medical training in any specialty. The four years of study are divided into pre-clinical and clinical phases. The curriculum combines lectures, case-based and small-group discussions, simulation and laboratory exercises. Students also have learning experiences in hospitals, clinics, and community service agencies. The first year focuses on fundamental scientific principles that form the foundation of medicine. The second year builds on that with an integrated organ system approach encompassing basic and clinical sciences. In the third and fourth years, students are fully immersed in clinical training in rotations at hospitals and clinics. They build on the knowledge and skills gained in the first two years in diverse practice settings, from metropolitan medical centers and rural hospitals to ambulatory clinics.

Program Objectives

Three program objectives guide teaching, learning and assessment within the educational program. These objectives emanate from (and link back to) the DMU Learning Goals and AOA/AACOM Core Competencies. Graduates of the program will: (1) demonstrate basic science knowledge relevant to clinical problems; (2) demonstrate clinical knowledge relevant to clinical problem-solving; and (3) demonstrate clinical competence (knowledge, skills, behavior).

AOA/AACOM Core Competencies

The COM curriculum is based upon core competencies for medical students as identified by the American Osteopathic Association and the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine:

1. Osteopathic Principles and Practices
2. Medical Knowledge
3. Patient Care
4. Interpersonal and Communication Skills
5. Professionalism
6. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement
7. Systems-Based Practice

Continuous Quality Improvement

The COM is committed to delivering high-quality academic programming to ensure the academic and professional success of its students. Assessment and evaluation are crucial steps in the educational process that are carefully aligned with student learning objectives and instructional activities. Formative and summative assessment methods vary in format – i.e., standardized licensing examinations, written tests (MCQ, SAQ, essay), performance assessments (OSCE, in-training assessments), focused assignments (case reports, projects, self-reflection) and portfolios, among others. Student assessment results are incorporated into the COM planning process on a regular basis to support continual improvement in programs and services to students.

Extended Pathways to Success

The Extended Pathways to Success Program of the College of Osteopathic Medicine allows students experiencing academic difficulties

or personal challenges the opportunity to reduce their course load. This strategy provides more time for study and academic counseling and the opportunity to develop improved study skills. Students in this alternative curriculum will require additional time (e.g., five years) to complete the requirements for the D.O. degree.

The Extended Pathways to Success Program is administered by the Associate Dean for Academic Curriculum and Medical Programs with the assistance of the Academic Progress Committee, Center for Teaching and Learning, and the appropriate Course Directors.

Program Outcomes

To review the college's outcome statistics (e.g., board exam pass rates, graduation rates, residency/internship match rates, etc.) and how they compare to national averages, please visit the program's outcomes webpage (<https://www.dmu.edu/com/outcomes>).

Licensure

Osteopathic physicians are required to be licensed by the states in which they practice. Each state has its own individual requirements for granting licensure. Generally, a license can be obtained by successful completion of all three parts of the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Exam (COMLEX) administered by the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, or by reciprocity from another state.

The COMLEX is given by the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners and is divided into three parts. Level 1 and Level 2 (both Cognitive Evaluation and Performance Evaluation) are taken during the medical school years. Level 3 consists of a written examination that is usually taken during the first postgraduate year. The College requires that students pass Level 1 of the COMLEX before entering clinical rotations and pass Level 2 Cognitive Evaluation and Performance Evaluation before graduation.

Technical Standards for Admission, Academic Promotion and Graduation

A candidate for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree must have abilities and skills (referred to as “technical standards”) in seven areas: unimpaired observation; communication; motor/sensory; strength and mobility; visual integration; intellectual, conceptual, integrative and quantitative; and behavioral and social. The University is committed to complying with the terms of the Americans with Disabilities Act, recognizing that certain minimum technical standards must be present in all students seeking a health care degree. Reasonable accommodations will be provided when supported with appropriate documentation, but in all cases, candidates and students must be able to demonstrate performance of these standards in a reasonably independent manner.

1. Unimpaired Observation: Candidates and students must have sufficient vision to be able to observe and timely interpret demonstrations, experiments and laboratory exercises in the basic sciences. They must be able to observe a patient accurately for purposes of diagnosis and clinical care.

2. Communication: Candidates and students must be able to speak, hear, observe, read and understand the English language in order to elicit information; examine patients; describe changes in mood, activity, and posture; and perceive nonverbal communications. They must be able to communicate effectively and respectfully with patients. Communication includes not only speech but also reading and writing. Candidate and

students must also be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in oral and written form with all members of the health care team.

3. Motor/Sensory: Candidates and students must have sufficient motor and tactile function to execute movements reasonably required to perform basic laboratory tests, perform physical examinations, and provide clinical care, including emergency treatment to patients. Such actions may include but are not limited to palpation, auscultation and percussion, and require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium and functional use of the senses of touch and vision. Candidates and students must be willing and able to touch and examine members of all genders.

4. Strength and Mobility: Students and candidates must demonstrate upright posture, strength, including lower extremity and body strength, and mobility to provide clinical care, attend to emergency codes and to perform such maneuvers as CPR.

5. Visual Integration: Consistent with the ability to assess asymmetry, range of motion and tissue texture changes, candidates and students must have adequate visual capabilities for proper evaluation and treatment integration.

6. Intellectual, Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities: Candidates and students must have the ability to accurately measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, problem solve and think critically. They must also have the ability to participate and learn through a variety of modalities including but not limited to classroom instruction, small groups, team and collaborative activities. In addition, candidates and students should be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand the spatial relationships of structures. Candidates and students must be able to concentrate, analyze and timely interpret data and make decisions within areas in which there is a reasonable amount of visual and auditory distraction. They must also perform these functions in a timely manner.

7. Behavioral and Social Attributes: Candidates and students must possess the emotional health required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients, and the development of mature, sensitive and effective professional relationships. Candidates and students must be able to work effectively as a member of a health care team; tolerate physically taxing and stressful workloads; adapt to changing environments; display flexibility; learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients; and to be free of impairments due to substance abuse. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities that will be assessed during the admissions and educational processes. Students must be accepting and non-judgmental when caring for patients whose spiritual beliefs, culture, ethnicity, socioeconomic background or sexual orientation differ from their background.

Accommodations

The University encourages application by qualified individuals with disabilities who meet these technical standards either with or without reasonable accommodations. Requests from candidates and students for reasonable accommodations in meeting the technical standards will be reviewed and considered by the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL). CTL is the University department that reviews requests for student accommodations. For additional information about the process for

assessing an applicant’s compliance with the Technical Standards, contact the CTL.

Use of an intermediary may be permissible in performing some physical maneuvers or data gathering, but must not substitute for the candidate or student’s interpretation and judgment. The use of a trained intermediary, a person trained to perform essential skills on behalf of the candidate, or a person used such that a candidate’s judgment must be mediated by someone else’s power of selection and observation, is not permitted.

Technological compensation can be made with respect to certain technical standards, but candidates and students should be able to perform these standards in a reasonably independent manner.

Process for Assessing Compliance with the Technical Standards

Candidates are required to attest at the time they accept an offer to matriculate that they meet the applicable technical standards, and thereafter must attest on an annual basis, as a student, that they continue to meet the standards. These standards are not intended to deter any candidate or student who might be able to complete the requirements of the curriculum with reasonable accommodations.

Physical Health

In addition to the technical standards, candidates and students must possess the general physical health necessary for performing the duties of a health professions student and health care provider in training without endangering the lives of patients and/or colleagues with whom they might have contact. A candidate or student whose performance is impaired by abuse of alcohol or other substances is not suitable for admission, continuation, promotion or graduation.

Course Sequence

Course	Title	Credit Hours
Year 1		
ANAT 1101A	Gross Anatomy A	4.5
ANAT 1101B	Gross Anatomy B	2.5
ANAT 1104	Neuroanatomy	2.5
ANAT 1106	Medical Cell & Tissue Biology	4
BHVM 1120	Introduction to Medical Ethics	1.5
BIOC 1102	Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics	4.5
DO 1102	Fund of Patient Safety & Clinical Qual I	0.5
DO 1103A	Professional Certifications I A	0.5
DO 1103B	Professional Certifications I B	0.5
DO 1120A	Med Informatics & Translational Learning	1
DO 1120B	Med Informatics & Translational Learning	1
DO 1129A	Foundations of Physicianship IA	2
DO 1129B	Foundations of Physicianship IB	1
FIM 1107A	Clinical Medicine A	1.5
FIM 1107B	Clinical Medicine B	2
MICR 1103	Microbiology & Immunology	5.5
MICR 1109	General Pathology	2.5
OMM 1101A	Osteopathic Manual Medicine I A	2.5
OMM 1101B	Osteopathic Manual Medicine I B	2
PHYPM 1116	Medical Physiology	6.5

SPMED 1122	Geriatrics	2.5
Credit Hours		51
Year 2		
BHVMD 2107	Psychiatry	2.5
BHVMD 2120	Medical Ethics II and Legal Topics	2
DO 2102	Fund Patient Safety & Clinical Quality II	0.5
DO 2103A	Professional Certifications II A	0.5
DO 2103B	Professional Certification II B	1
FIM 2119	Preventive Medicine/Nutrition	2
FIM 2125A	Clinical Reasoning & Sim A	1.5
FIM 2125B	Clinical Reasoning & Sim B	1
MICR 2124	Infectious Disease	1.5
OMM 2101A	Osteopathic Manual Medicine II A	2
OMM 2101B	Osteopathic Manual Medicine II B	2
PHYPM 2115	Medical Pharmacology	5.5
SPMED 2100A	Early Clinical Experiences A	0.5
SPMED 2100B	Early Clinical Experiences B	0
SPMED 2104	Ophthalmology	1
SPMED 2105	Specialty Medicine: Derm/Al ENT R/O	3
SPMED 2115	Basic Surgical and Medical Skills	1
SYST 2101	Cardiovascular System	3.5
SYST 2103	Hematology	2.5
SYST 2105	Renal	3
SYST 2106	Endocrine System	2.5
SYST 2111	Gastrointestinal (GI) System	3
SYST 2114	Respiratory System	3
SYST 2116A	OB/Gyn Sim	0
SYST 2116B	Obstetrics/Gynecology	2.5
SYST 2141	Neurology	2
Credit Hours		49.5
Year 3		
OMM 3101A	Osteopathic Manual Medicine III A	1
OMM 3101B	Osteopathic Manual Medicine III B	0.5
DO 3140	Introduction to Clinical Clerkships	1
DO 3144A	Clinical Rotations Year III A	20
DO 3144B	Clinical Rotations Year III B	20
DO 3151	Introduction to Health Systems & Policy	1
DO 3160	NAMI Provider Educator Program	0.5
Credit Hours		44
Year 4		
DO 4144A	Clinical Rotations Year IV A	8
DO 4144B	Clinical Rotations Year IV B	16
DO 4144C	Clinical Rotations Year IV C	16
DO 4160	Clinical Comprehensive Assessm	1
OMM 4101A	Osteopathic Manual Medicine IV A	0.5
OMM 4101B	Osteopathic Manual Medicine IV B	0.5
Credit Hours		42
Total Credit Hours		186.5

Required Courses

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ANAT 1101A	Gross Anatomy A	4.5
ANAT 1101B	Gross Anatomy B	2.5
ANAT 1104	Neuroanatomy	2.5
ANAT 1106	Medical Cell & Tissue Biology	4
BHVMD 1120	Introduction to Medical Ethics	1.5
BHVMD 2107	Psychiatry	2.5
BHVMD 2120	Medical Ethics II and Legal Topics	2
BIOC 1102	Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics	4.5
DO 1102	Fund of Patient Safety & Clinical Qual I	0.5
DO 1103A	Professional Certifications I A	0.5
DO 1103B	Professional Certifications I B	0.5
DO 1120A	Med Informatics & Translational Learning	1
DO 1120B	Med Informatics & Translational Learning	1
DO 1129A	Foundations of Physicianship IA	2
DO 1129B	Foundations of Physicianship IB	1
DO 2102	Fund Patient Safety & Clinical Quality II	0.5
DO 2103A	Professional Certifications II A	0.5
DO 2103B	Professional Certification II B	1
DO 3140	Introduction to Clinical Clerkships	1
DO 3144A	Clinical Rotations Year III A	20
DO 3144B	Clinical Rotations Year III B	20
DO 3151	Introduction to Health Systems & Policy	1
DO 3160	NAMI Provider Educator Program	0.5
DO 4144A	Clinical Rotations Year IV A	8
DO 4144B	Clinical Rotations Year IV B	16
DO 4144C	Clinical Rotations Year IV C	16
DO 4160	Clinical Comprehensive Assessm	1
FIM 1107A	Clinical Medicine A	1.5
FIM 1107B	Clinical Medicine B	2
FIM 2119	Preventive Medicine/Nutrition	2
FIM 2125A	Clinical Reasoning & Sim A	1.5
FIM 2125B	Clinical Reasoning & Sim B	1.0
MICR 1103	Microbiology & Immunology	5.5
MICR 1109	General Pathology	2.5
MICR 2124	Infectious Disease	1.5
OMM 1101A	Osteopathic Manual Medicine I A	2.5
OMM 1101B	Osteopathic Manual Medicine I B	2
OMM 2101A	Osteopathic Manual Medicine II A	2
OMM 2101B	Osteopathic Manual Medicine II B	2
OMM 3101A	Osteopathic Manual Medicine III A	1
OMM 3101B	Osteopathic Manual Medicine III B	0.5
OMM 4101A	Osteopathic Manual Medicine IV A	0.5
OMM 4101B	Osteopathic Manual Medicine IV B	0.5
PHYPM 1116	Medical Physiology	6.5
PHYPM 2115	Medical Pharmacology	5.5
SPMED 1122	Geriatrics	2.5
SPMED 2100A	Early Clinical Experiences A	0.5
SPMED 2100B	Early Clinical Experiences B	0
SPMED 2104	Ophthalmology	1

SPMED 2105	Specialty Medicine: Derm/Al ENT R/O	3
SPMED 2115	Basic Surgical and Medical Skills	1
SYST 2101	Cardiovascular System	3.5
SYST 2103	Hematology	2.5
SYST 2105	Renal	3
SYST 2106	Endocrine System	2.5
SYST 2111	Gastrointestinal (GI) System	3
SYST 2114	Respiratory System	3
SYST 2116A	OB/Gyn Sim	0
SYST 2116B	Obstetrics/Gynecology	2.5
SYST 2141	Neurology	2

Elective Courses

There are no required elective hours.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ANAT 2003	Cranial Nerves - A Case-Based Approach	1
ANAT 2026	Problem-Based Anatomy	1
ANAT 2031	Human Development	2
ANAT 2065	Coronary Circulation	1
ANAT 2071	Community Health Immersion Project	1
BHVMD 2076	Improv Skills in Health Care Setting	0.5
BIOC 1122	Problem-Based-Learning (PBL) Biochem	1
CTL 2078A	Practical Foundations for Medical Educat	1.5
CTL 2078B	Application of Practical Found for Med E	1
CTL 2081	Fundamentals of Learning	0.5
DO 2021	Dying in America: Palliative and End-Of-	1
DO 2036A	Rural Medicine Educational Pathway	1
DO 2036B	Rural Medicine Educational Pathway	1
DO 2044	The Healer's Art	1
DO 2063A	Military Elective I	0.5
DO 2063B	Military Elective II	0.5
DO 2063C	Military Elective III	0.5
DO 2063D	Military Elective IV	0.5
DO 2100	Mentored Research Experience	1
ELECT 2080	Special Topics Elective	1
GLHLT 2020	Beginning Medical Spanish	1
GLHLT 2023	Intermediate Medical Spanish	1
GLHLT 2081	Global Health Service Trip	1
MPH 0772	Cardiovascular Epidemiology	3
MPH 0773	Nutritional Epidemiology	3
OMM 2027	Forty-hour Cranial Course	2
OMM 5101	OMM Fellowship	16
SPMED 2030	Reproductive and Sexual Health	1
SPMED 2032	Healthy Food Preparation	0.5

Graduation Requirements

The University awards the professional degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) upon recommendation of the faculty. The Academic Progress Committee reports annually to the college faculty the names of students who have met requirements for the doctoral degree. To graduate, a student must:

- Exhibit high standards of professional behavior and receive the faculty's recommendation for graduation.
- Have attained 21 years of age.
- Pass all required courses, systems, rotations, and examinations.
- Be formally enrolled for at least two years at the COM.
- Be of good moral character and emotionally stable.
- Satisfactorily discharge all financial obligations to the University.
- Complete all graduation requirements, including the graduation clearance process.
- Pass Level 1 and Level 2 (CE and PE) of the COMLEX examinations.
- Attend graduation ceremonies at which time the degree is conferred. Excused absence from commencement for extraordinary extenuating circumstances will only be considered through written appeal to the Dean of the College.