Important Announcement:
AACOM Releases Series of Online Financial Aid Debt Management Modules for Osteopathic Medical School Students

The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) and its Council of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CSFAA) are pleased to announce a series of educational debt management modules designed to help osteopathic medical school students and soon-to-be medical residents.

This module series is a tool to assist financial aid professionals at osteopathic medical schools around the country by supporting and enhancing the educational debt management programs at their schools. These modules may also serve as a key component of general financial literacy programs at the schools.

Each module contains specific information and resources to not only help osteopathic medical students borrow responsibly, but also ensure they are prepared to responsibly repay their loans after they graduate and enter residency training.

While designed specifically for upcoming graduates in the Class of 2016, the following three modules may prove helpful to all osteopathic medical students:

- **Repayment Strategies for Osteopathic Medical School Graduates in the Class of 2016**
  - Great complement to Senior Loan Exit Interviews
- **Income Driven Repayment Plans and Forgiveness Programs as Part of Your Repayment Strategy**
  - Information on Income Based Repayment (IBR), Pay As You Earn (PAYE), and Public Service Loan Forgiveness
  - General information on the new repayment plan Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE)
- **Financial Decisions in Residency and Fellowship: Handling Your First Income Bump**
  - Budgeting in residency and how residents might allocate their additional income

These modules are designed for currently enrolled students including students in the Class of 2020:

- **Student Loan Update: The Real Cost of Your D.O. Degree and Preview of Repayment Strategies**
  - Information on cost and repayment every osteopathic medical student should know
- **Responsible Borrowing and Responsible Repayment: Special Tips for the Class of 2020**
  - Information on what every responsible borrower should know about student loans

These modules are offered by AACOM and its CSFAA as part of a continuing commitment to help provide financial aid professionals at the nation’s colleges of osteopathic medicine with the best educational debt management assistance possible for students and future alumni. The modules are presented by Paul S. Garrard, an independent student loan consultant, under contract again this year with AACOM, to provide this service.


Paul Garrard is an independent student loan consultant and 34 year veteran of higher education with experience in both the non-profit and for-profit higher education sectors. He works extensively with medical and other health sciences schools, their students, and their alumni, and his specialty is helping recent medical school graduates develop repayment strategies for their student loans.