

Special Note to All

The College Information Book is published annually by the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM).

The information in this book is compiled from data submitted by each of the member colleges. Although AACOM has attempted to verify the accuracy of the data submitted by the member colleges, AACOM cannot guarantee the accuracy of the data and as such the information in this book is provided to you "AS IS" and AACOM assumes no responsibility, and shall not be liable for damages of any kind whatsoever based upon your use or reliance on the information provided in this book.

Data on tuition and fees are reported by the colleges applicable as of January 1, 2011, and are subject to change. Enrollment numbers are reported by the colleges and also are subject to change.

The AACOM Application Service (AACOMAS) and the individual colleges are subject to applicable federal, state and local laws prohibiting discrimination.

Mission

The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine promotes excellence in osteopathic medical education, in research and in service, and fosters innovation and quality among osteopathic colleges to improve the health of the American public.

AACOM

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Dear Future Physician:

Congratulations on your decision to pursue a career in medicine! I am pleased to welcome you to the Osteopathic Medical College Information Book, designed to provide aspiring physicians with a wealth of information about osteopathic medicine, what the nation's osteopathic medical colleges offer students, and how to apply to the college(s) of your choice.

The last 20 years have seen tremendous growth in osteopathic medical education. During these years, nearly half of the nation's 26 colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs) opened their doors to students, and four of the colleges established branch campuses to serve students in diverse geographic areas. Today, the COMs educate more than 18,000 students; more than 20 percent of new U.S. medical students are studying at osteopathic medical schools.

Colleges of osteopathic medicine have a long history of dedication to training primary care physicians to work in America's smaller communities, rural areas and underserved urban areas, allowing osteopathic physicians to have a greater impact on the U.S. population's health and well-being than their numbers would suggest. I believe that the strong educational grounding in primary care that all osteopathic medical college students receive makes them better physicians, regardless of what specialty they might pursue or where they choose to practice.

Over the past couple of years, osteopathic medicine's traditional principles and practices (especially those focused on patient-centered, preventive care) have been heralded as central features of the kind of health care system that reform efforts aim to implement. In other words, osteopathic medical schools are educating the kind of physicians this country needs, and that fact is being increasingly recognized throughout the nation. It is also reflected in the increase of applications to the COMs over the past five application cycles. Last year, more than 13,000 aspiring physicians applied to osteopathic medical colleges.

The education osteopathic medical (DO) students receive is rigorous and thorough. Like their MD counterparts, incoming DO students are required to have strong undergraduate science backgrounds, have excellent Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) scores, and meet stringent admissions criteria. Also like their MD counterparts, osteopathic medical students participate in years of classroom, clinical, internship, and residency training. When they leave that training, they become board-certified physicians, able to choose among the full range of medical specialties and licensed to practice medicine in every state in the country and in more than 50 countries abroad.

I hope you will take time to carefully review the College Information Book, and to contact us or individual colleges for any further information you require. I wish you the very best in your pursuit of a fulfilling career in medicine.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SC Shannon".

Stephen C. Shannon, DO, MPH

President

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine