A.T. Still University of Health Sciences–School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (ATSU-SOMA)

Mission Statement
Prepare individuals through high-quality, innovative, learning-centered undergraduate and graduate medical education programs to become compassionate osteopathic physicians and health care leaders who serve medically underserved populations with a focus on research and community-oriented primary care.

COM Description
A.T.Still University-SOMA trains osteopathic physicians who are dedicated to serving medically underserved patients and their communities. SOMA's innovative approach uses early clinical experiences, small group, and personalized learning to make it a truly unique and exciting medical education experience. SOMA's graduating physicians are highly successful in meeting the challenges of medicine and are equipped with the skills to navigate and adapt to the rapidly changing health care environment.

Campus setting: Mesa, Arizona; a suburban area near the large metro area of Phoenix

Year founded: 2006

Type: Private, non-profit

Accreditation: ATSU-SOMA is accredited by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA). ATSU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Institutional affiliation:
- Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (KCOM)
- Arizona School of Health Sciences (ASHS)
- College of Graduate Health Sciences (CGHS)
- Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ASDOH)
- Missouri School of Dentistry & Oral Health (MOSDOH)

Facilities: ATSU-SOMA's campus in Mesa, AZ includes carefully designed spaces for large and small group learning; osteopathic manipulative medicine and medical skills labs with ultrasound imaging and real-time physiological measurements; digital learning resources; and a 3-D virtual anatomy lab. Students can take advantage of an on-campus osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) clinic which provides osteopathic care and shadowing opportunities. Additionally, students are provided with free access to an on-campus YMCA with state of the art workout facilities.

Student residence options: There is no on-campus housing. Upon acceptance, students are provided a link to housing and apartment rentals in the area as well as opportunities to network to a closed Facebook page to inquire about roommates or housing.

2017-2018 Enrollment
- Total medical school enrollment: 427
- Total male: 190
- Total female: 237
- First-year enrollment: 108
- First-year male: 49
- First-year female: 59
- First-year in-state: 14
- First-year out-of-state: 94
- Total enrollment affiliate institutions: 3,723

Curricular Offerings
During the first year on the Mesa, AZ campus, students learn basic and clinical sciences using the clinical presentation (CP) curricular model. A key component of the CP model is learning how to evaluate a patient like an expert. Based on the most common complaints that patients seek medical care, students learn how to organize and integrate laboratory and imaging tests. Students are encouraged to use inductive reasoning and critical thinking skills to work through these presentations. This approach helps train SOMA students for more accurate clinical reasoning very early in their medical education. Student learning is enhanced through a variety of different learning experiences, including large group presentations, small group problem-solving sessions, computerized cases, simulated patients, hands-on osteopathic skills, and medical skills training.

Second-, third-, and fourth-year students are placed at one of SOMA’s 11 learning sites, typically based at Community Health Centers (CHC’s). In a small group setting, students receive personalized didactic and clinical learning through web-based curriculum, hands-on osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) training, clinician-led small group tutorials, and third- and fourth-year clinical rotations in both CHC’s, office-based, and hospital-based settings.

Dual Degree / Concurrent Programs
DO/MPH Master of Public Health - offered through the College of Graduate Health Studies at ATSU.

Preparatory Programs
None offered

Special Programs
Mindfulness/Compassion Training
Student well-being is important for optimum learning and having the capacity to serve others. Our voluntary program provides students with skills and tools to help face the challenges and achieve balance as a medical student.

Application Information
- Primary application service: AACOMAS
- Earliest application submission date: Opening Date of AACOMAS (5/3/2018)
- Primary application deadline: 3/1/2019
- Supplemental application deadline: 4/1/2019
- Submission timing for best consideration: For best consideration, applicants should submit their AACOMAS application at least four weeks prior to this school’s latest filing date.

Admissions Process
Applicants meeting the 2.80 science and cumulative GPA requirement will receive a link to our secondary application within 24 hours of being verified by AACOMAS. Along with the secondary application and $70 fee, applicants will need a minimum of two letters of recommendation and official MCAT scores to be complete and ready for review. Letters of recommendation may come with the AACOMAS application or separately. Evaluation I must be from an academic advisor, premed committee or science faculty. Evaluation II must be from a physician (MD or DO). Interviews are offered August through April through rolling admissions.

First-Year Class Matriculants’ Selection Factors:
A bachelor’s degree and the MCAT, preferably taken by the fall semester, but no later than January of the application year, are required. Any undergraduate major is acceptable. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent residency.

Applicants who are community service or public health minded, and who have a desire to serve the underserved and to practice in primary care settings, are highly desirable. Prospective SOMA students will be evaluated in four major areas: academic accomplishment, a preference for...
osteopathic medicine, personal characteristics of a healer, and propensity to serve the underserved. Prospective students must exhibit a genuine concern for others. SOMA requires a personal interview during the application process. The applicant is strongly encouraged to have clinical exposure in a health care environment. International students (non-U.S. citizens or temporary residents) considered: No

MCAT
- Oldest MCAT considered: January 2015
- Accept September 2018 MCAT scores: Yes
- Accept January 2019 MCAT scores: Yes

Accepted Sources for Letters of Recommendation
- AACOMAS
- Virtual Evals
- Interfolio
- Paper
- Email

Interview Format
The interview format consists of a faculty one-on-one interview, MMI/standardized patient encounters, and small group activities.

Supplemental Application
- Supplemental application required? Yes
- Earliest supplemental application submission date: 6/15/2018
- Supplemental application deadline: 4/1/2019
- Supplemental application requirements:
  Minimum cumulative and science GPA of 2.80.
  Two letters of evaluation: one from a premedical advisor, premedical committee or a science faculty member, and one from a physician (DO or MD; DO preferred). U.S. Citizenship or Residency: ATSU-SOMA is currently accepting applications only from U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Fee waiver available: Yes
- Waiver conditions: AACOMAS waiver
- Supplemental application sent to the following prospective students: Screened applicants must meet minimum 2.80 science and cumulative GPA.

Financial Information

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<tr>
<th>Tuition and Fees</th>
<th>Req.</th>
<th>Rec.</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Sem. Hrs</th>
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<td>Source: 2017-2018 tuition. Data subject to change.</td>
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Fees Include: Technology (not computer) X

Est. Room, Board, Books & Living Costs: $40,694
Average 2017 graduate indebtedness: $215,370

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<td>Additional Deposit: $1,000</td>
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Financial Aid

Financial Aid Website: https://www.atsu.edu/financial-aid
Enrolled students with federal financial aid: 88%
Scholarships: Yes
Average scholarship/grant: $5,142

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