Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine—Auburn Campus (VCOM—Auburn)

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General Information
Mission Statement
The MISSION of the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) is to Prepare globally minded, community-focused physicians to meet the needs of rural and medically underserved populations and promote research to improve human health. VCOM faculty staff and students VALUE: professionalism, integrity, duty, compassion, altruism, knowledge, and critical thinking.

COM Description
VCOM is committed to providing excellence in osteopathic medical education, serving the rural and underserved areas of Appalachia and the Southeastern United States, providing international medical service, enhancing diversity, and advancing medical research. The college is committed to service-based learning programs. Students on the new VCOM-Auburn Campus will have access to Auburn University facilities, activities, and collaborative research opportunities. Auburn University is also home to Pharmacy, Nursing, and Veterinary Medicine programs, as well as a full Service School of Kinesiology.

Campus setting: In addition to the over 27,000 University students, the City of Auburn is the fastest growing metropolitan area in Alabama. Auburn's Southern charm is seen in the arts, in its quaint restaurants, independent boutiques, and availability of cultural opportunities. Located in the Research Park of Auburn University, adjacent to Donahue Street and within walking distance of the stadium, VCOM-Auburn Campus is well integrated into the Auburn University community. Auburn has many attributes of a college town and much more.

Year founded: 2014
Type: Private, non-profit
Accreditation: VCOM is accredited by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA).
Institutional affiliation: Auburn University
Facilities: The main academic building is 100,000 square feet and located on a beautifully landscaped campus.

- The Auburn Campus offers a state-of-the-art anatomy lab with plastinated specimens and a ventilation system that allows the air to circulate 15 times per hour, two theatre style classrooms, and group learning rooms.
- Research facilities are located on the main Auburn campus, including at the School of Kinesiology and additional laboratories throughout the University.
- The Auburn Campus employs state-of-the-art technology in delivering curriculum including high tech classroom facilities and wireless access across the campus.

Student residence options:
The town of Auburn provides an array of housing opportunities. Private apartment and town-home complexes catering to graduate students and young professionals are conveniently located throughout Auburn, Opelika, and in neighboring communities.

2016-2017 Enrollment
- Total medical school enrollment: 321
- Total male: 170
- Total female: 151
- First-year enrollment: 162
- First-year male: 79
- First-year female: 83
- First-year in-state: 47
- First-year out-of-state: 117

Curricular Offerings
The curriculum at VCOM is innovative and modern. The faculty of VCOM recognizes that students learn in a number of ways. Students generally assimilate a knowledge base through instruction, reading and experience. VCOM uses a hybrid curriculum consisting of lectures, computerized case tutorials, laboratory experiences, clinical skills laboratories, and clinical experiences throughout the four years.

Dual Degree / Concurrent Programs
For information on VCOM’s dual degree/concurrent program offerings, visit www.vcom.edu/admissions/parallel-degree.

Preparatory Programs
The VCOM Graduate Certificate Premedical Program - Virginia Campus
This is a one-year graduate level program designed for students who need to enhance their academics in order to gain acceptance to an osteopathic (DO) or allopathic (MD) medical program. It provides an opportunity for highly motivated individuals to grow as a student and to improve their academics to a level that can allow them to earn admittance into medical school. The program is offered to attract individuals from rural areas, low socioeconomic status backgrounds, and underrepresented minorities, although acceptance is not limited to individuals from these groups.
www.vcom.edu/premedical_admissions

Special Programs
Community Outreach
On a regular basis, faculty and students will provide healthcare for medically underserved and disadvantaged populations in Alabama. Students participate in projects to improve the health and wellness in the community and the rural areas of the state currently without access to health care.

Global Outreach
Embracing the one world – one health concept, VCOM faculty and students provide global health outreach programs in El Salvador, Honduras and the Dominican Republic. Students benefit from the sharing of cultural experiences, medical education and public health practices that in turn improve the health of the remote communities served. VCOM provides sustainable year-round health clinics in all three countries to ensure a continual improvement in health care and public health practices.

Sports Medicine
VCOM students have the opportunity to work with renowned sports medicine faculty on its three campuses. The Auburn University Athletics program has a dedicated sports medicine program and a student athlete population that includes current and previous Olympic gold medal winners as well as three Heisman trophy winners.

Via Wellness Program
To promote a healthy mind, body, and spirit, faculty and students know the message must start at home. Faculty and students structure and participate in the Via Wellness Program, the program provides enrich-ment to campus life through a wide variety of sports, individual exercise programs, a social program, cultural programs, and spiritual programs. Families are included in all programs. Fitness awards are provided for those who achieve various levels of participation.

Application Information
- Primary application service: AACOMAS
- Earliest application submission date: Opening Date of AACOMAS (5/4/2017)
- Primary application deadline: 3/1/2018
• Supplemental application deadline: Rolling
• Admission timing for best consideration: For best consideration, applicants should submit their AAMCAS application at least five weeks in advance of the latest filing date, as VCOM is on a rolling admissions process and seats may be filled prior to this date.

Admissions Process
VCOM utilizes a rolling admissions process. The steps below outline our admissions process:
• Determine if you are a qualified applicant
• Submit your application
• If invited, complete the secondary application
• Submit letters of recommendation
• If invited, schedule your interview

First-year class matriculant’s selection factors:
All qualified applicants are considered and reviewed for academic preparedness, health care experience, volunteer outreach, fit with VCOM’s mission, and commitment to the osteopathic profession. VCOM utilizes a rolling admissions process. Thus, candidates who submit an application early and return all required documents promptly will be at an advantage in the admissions process. VCOM recognizes, values, and affirms that diversity contributes richness to the college and enhances the quality of education.

International students (non-U.S. citizens or temporary residents) considered:
International students are accepted from areas throughout the United States. VCOM seeks to admit qualified applicants based in Alabama and the surrounding states of Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, and those students from other regions who are committed to health care for medically underserved populations. Completed applications are reviewed for academic preparedness, health care experience, volunteer outreach, fit with VCOM’s mission, and commitment to the osteopathic profession. VCOM utilizes a rolling admissions process. Thus, candidates who submit an application early and return all required documents promptly will be at an advantage in the admissions process. VCOM recognizes, values, and affirms that diversity contributes richness to the college and enhances the quality of education.

MCAT
• Oldest MCAT considered: April 2014
• Accept September 2017 MCAT scores: Yes
• Accept January 2018 MCAT scores: Yes

Accepted Sources for Letters of Recommendation
• AAMCAS
• Virtual Eval
• Interfolio
• Paper

Interview Format
The interview day at VCOM-Auburn Campus includes an information session, one-on-one interviews, a tour of the Auburn campus, lunch with VCOM students, a tour of Auburn, and a session with a representative of the financial aid office.

Supplemental Application
• Supplemental application required? Yes
• Earliest supplemental application submission date: 7/1/2017
• Supplemental application deadline: Rolling
• Supplemental application requirements: In addition to completing a secondary application, a letter of recommendation from a premedical advisor or science faculty member who has taught the applicant is required. Shadowing with a physician and a letter of recommendation from that physician is required. If that experience was with a DO, all requirements will be met. If not, the student may be required to spend time meeting with a DO. See the VCOM website and secondary application for ways to meet this requirement if a DO did not write the required letter.
• Fee waiver available: Yes
• Waiver conditions: AAMCAS waiver
• Supplemental application sent to the following prospective students:
  Screened applicants - please include criteria (Required): In order to be considered for a Secondary Application, candidates must present a competitive science GPA, overall GPA, and MCAT score. (See VCOM’s website for more information.)
  • Supplemental application fee: $50, non-refundable

Financial Aid
Financial Aid Website: www.vcom.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid
Enrolled students with federal financial aid: 91.1%
Scholarships: Yes
Average scholarship/grant: $15,196

Premedical Coursework

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Req.</th>
<th>Rec.</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Sem. Hrs</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Physics</td>
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<td>6-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physiology</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>College English</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Behavioral Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math/Statistics</td>
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Scholarship: VCOM requires six additional biomedical credits at the 300 level or above for matriculation, six semester hours.

Tuition and Fees
Source: 2016-2017 Tuition. Data subject to change.

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<tr>
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<td>Annual non-resident tuition</td>
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<td>Annual non-resident fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual health insurance fees</td>
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Estimated annual room, board, books and living costs: $28,430

Average 2016 graduate indebtedness: N/A
Deposit
See AAMCAS traffic guideline schedule.
Amount of deposit to hold place in class: $1,000, non-refundable
Additional deposit amount: $0
Deposit applied to tuition: Yes

Acceptances
Applicants will be requested to submit necessary matriculation documents, including a deposit, according to the following AAMCAS traffic guideline schedule:
• Those accepted prior to November 15 will have until December 14
• Those accepted between November 15 and January 14 will have 30 days
• Those accepted between January 15 and May 14 will have 14 days
• Those accepted after May 15 may be asked for an immediate deposit
• Earliest acceptance date: 10/1/2017
• Latest acceptance date: Rolling
• Deferred entrance requests considered: Yes
• Orientation / start date for first-year students: 7/30/2018 (approximate)

Early Decision Program
• Early Decision Program (EDP) offered: Yes
• EDP available for: Residents, Non-residents
• EDP application due date: 7/1/2017
• EDP applications submitted to: AAMCAS
• EDP supplemental materials due: 8/15/2017
• Date EDP applicants notified: By early October 2017

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- Maximum time for applicant to accept offer: Two weeks
- Earliest acceptance date: 10/16/2017
- Latest acceptance date: 7/1/2018
- Deferred entrance requests considered: Yes

  TCOM will consider one-year deferment requests if made on or before June 1. A $1,000 non-refundable deposit is required to hold a seat in the next class.
- Orientation / start date for first-year students: 7/16/2018

**Early Decision Program**

- Early Decision Program (EDP) offered: Yes
- EDP available for: Residents, Non-residents
- EDP application due date: 8/1/2017
- EDP applications submitted to: Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service
- EDP supplemental materials due: 8/1/2017
- Date EDP applicants notified: 9/15/2017

**First-Year Class Matriculants**

**Self-Reported Race/Ethnicity**

Matriculants from the 2015-2016 application cycle.

- American Indian or Alaska Native: 0%
- Asian: 17.36%
- Black or African-American: 4.17%
- Hispanic/Latino: 6.94%
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: 0%
- White: 65.97%
- Multiple Races: 1.39%
- Undisclosed: 4.17%

**Majors of First-Year Class Matriculants**

Science majors: 78%
Non-Science majors: 22%
Graduate degree(s): 29%

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**First-Year Class Matriculants**

- Those accepted between November 15 and January 14 will have 30 days
- Those accepted between January 15 and May 14 will have 14 days
- Those accepted after May 15 may be asked for an immediate deposit
- Earliest acceptance date: 10/1/2017
- Latest acceptance date: Rolling
- Deferred entrance requests considered: Yes
- Orientation / start date for first-year students: 7/30/2018 (Approximate)

**Early Decision Program**

- Early Decision Program (EDP) offered: Yes
- EDP available for: Residents, Non-residents
- EDP application due date: 7/1/2017
- EDP applications submitted to: AACOMAS
- EDP supplemental materials due: 8/15/2017
- Date EDP applicants notified: By early October 2017.

**First-Year Class Matriculants**

**Self-Reported Race/Ethnicity**

Matriculants from the 2015-2016 application cycle.

- American Indian or Alaska Native: 0%
- Asian: 12.12%
- Black or African-American: 0.76%
- Hispanic/Latino: 11.36%
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: 0%
- White: 69.70%
- Multiple Races: 2.27%
- Undisclosed: 3.79%

**Majors of First-Year Class Matriculants**

Science majors: 86.1%
Non-Science majors: 13.9%
Graduate degree(s): 13.3%

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**First-Year Class Matriculants**

**Self-Reported Race/Ethnicity**

Matriculants from the 2015-2016 application cycle.

- American Indian or Alaska Native: 0%
- Asian: 20%
- Black or African-American: 6.29%
- Hispanic/Latino: 8%
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: 0%
- White: 58.29%
- Multiple Races: 4%
- Undisclosed: 3.43%

**Majors of First-Year Class Matriculants**

- Science majors: 86%
- Non-Science majors: 13%
- Graduate degree(s): 12%