



COMMISSION ON OSTEOPATHIC COLLEGE ACCREDITATION (COCA)

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Overview

- Who are they?
- Purpose and goals
 - USDE
 - Standards
- History with COSGP
- Updates from meeting
 - COSGP report
- Future
- Introduction to Dr. Johnson

COCA Board

- **17 voting members**
 - Public college Dean
 - Private college Dean
 - 2 COM educators
 - DME
 - Hospital administrator
 - 3 public members
 - 8 members at large

COCA Board

- **Voting Members**

- Kenneth H. Johnson, DO, FAAO → Chair
- John B. Bulger, DO, MBA → Vice Chair
- Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, FACOI, FACP
- Bruce D. Dubin, DO, JD
- Sandra Featherman, PhD
- David H. Forstein, DO, FACOOG
- Jennifer L. Gwilym, DO, FAAFP
- Isaac J. Kirstein, DO, FACOI
- Janice A. Knelb, DO, MBA
- Paul M Kreauger, DO, FACOOG
- Ronnie B. Martin, DO, FACOFFPd
- William D. Strampel, DO, FACOI
- Robert E. Suter, DO, MHA
- David M. Wells, JD
- Richard A. Winn, EdD
- DME → TDB
- Member at large → TBD

- **AOA Staff to the COCA**

- Alissa Craft, DO, MBA → Secretary
- Andrea Williams, MA → Assistant Secretary

Goals of the COCA

- To serve the public and the community of Interest by ensuring the continued effectiveness of the COCA.
- To develop, maintain, apply and periodically review the COCA's accreditation processes and the accreditation standards for COMs.
 - Currently accredits 30 schools operating at 42 sites
- To foster continuous quality improvement of osteopathic medical education by encouraging innovation and creativity in COM's programs and institutions.
- To assure the continued effectiveness of the accreditation process by the development and application of continuous quality assurance, self-assessment, and external review of the COCA.

U.S. Department of Education

The COCA reports to the USDE:

- Updates on the COCAs report to AOA HOD
- Updates on changes in standards
- Updates on COMs with recognition status
- Updates on COMs receiving pre-accreditation, provisional and accreditation status

Standards for COM Accreditation

1. Mission, Goals, Objectives
2. Governance, Administration, Finance
3. Facilities, Equipment, Resources
4. Faculty
5. Students
6. Curriculum
7. Research and Scholarly Activities
8. **GME Outcomes → big deal this year**
9. Prerequisites for Accreditation

New Schools

- **Steps for school to open**
 - Money\$ → millions of dollars to open a school and set up rotation sites
 - Time → takes multiple years
 - Support → university, State Society, Government, Community, Hospitals
 - “Sections” of accreditation
- **Status**
 - *Application*
 - Initial step in accreditation
 - *Pre-accreditation Status*
 - The initial recognition status awarded by the COCA.
 - Reviewed annually, with an on-site visit when indicated.
 - Awarded following receipt of a Feasibility Study and an on-site visit to determine that prerequisites have been met and that the developing college of osteopathic medicine may be expected to attain the next level of accreditation status
 - *Provisional accreditation*
 - (within the five-year term of Pre-accreditation).
 - Colleges holding Pre-accreditation may not recruit, accept applications from or admit prospective students. Pre-accreditation status also does not establish eligibility to participate in federally funded student financial aid programs.
 - *Accreditation*
 - Granted when COM meets or exceeds standards
 - Requirement → must be met within 24 months

COSGP history with the COCA

- No student representatives
 - Students have unofficially attended
 - Students now officially asked to attend and give report/update as of last year
- White paper submitted in March 2014
 - Sent 3 COSGP E-Board members
- Asked for the COCAs consideration for a student rep at August 2015 meeting
 - Sent 4 COSGP E-Board members

White Paper and Current Status

1. COSGP Resolution 002: Revisions of the AOA COCA Standards and Procedures to include protection from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity
 - **THIS WAS UPDATED IN THE CURRENT COCA STANDARDS 2.8 + 4.3**
1. Incorporating Student Representation into The Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation
 - **OFFICIALLY INVITED TO OPEN SESSIONS AND PROVIDE UPDATES**
 - **WILLING TO ENTERTAIN A PROPOSAL**
1. Student Concern Regarding Increasing College Class Sizes and Opening of New Osteopathic Medical schools.
 - **PROCESS IS STRICT AND VERY REGULATED**

Updates from August 2015 Meeting

- **Standard Review**
- **Site Visits** → commendations, citations, regulations
 - *Focused Visit*
 - Edward Via COM-Carolinas
 - *Provisional Visits*
 - Alabama COM→3rd
 - Campbell University SOM→3rd
 - Liberty University COM→ 2nd
 - Marian University COM→ 3rd
 - *Preaccreditation*
 - Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine (Fort Smith, Arkansas)
 - University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine (San Antonio, Texas)
 - *Continuing Accreditation (Comprehensive visit)*
 - TouroCOM-CA
 - WesternU-COMP
 - University of Pikesville Kentucky COM
- **Substantive Change requests**
 - Additional Locations (LECOM-Elmira)
 - Positive/Negative Testimony
 - Suspension of program (NYITCOM, Accelerated Family Medicine)

Applicant Status

Proposed COM or Entity	Location	Date of Request
Alliant International University	San Francisco, CA	May 20, 2015
Center for Allied Health Nursing Education	Florida	October 27, 2011
College of Osteopathic Medicine-Jefferson	Jefferson, WI	July 22, 2015
Homer G. Phillips College of Osteopathic Medicine	St. Louis, MO	November 3, 2010
Indiana Wesleyan University	Establish in Kansas	October 10, 2011
Larkin College of Osteopathic Medicine	S. Miami, FL	January 16, 2013
Louisiana College of Osteopathic Medicine	Central Louisiana	June 1, 2015
Monmouth College of Osteopathic Medicine	Monmouth County, NJ	January 3, 2012
Southern California College of Osteopathic Medicine	Los Angeles, CA	May 10, 2011
Southern Utah University Southern Utah College of Osteopathic Medicine	Cedar City, UT	June 6, 2011 October 16, 2012
Southwestern Pennsylvania	Beaver, PA	February 14, 2008 June 4, 2010

COSGP Report to the COCA

- Mental Health Awareness Taskforce (MHAT)
- Adding a student representative
- GingerCupitWesternU COCA student survey and process



What COCA Needs From Students

- Continue to present on student issues
- Create awareness of what the COCA does and how students can utilize the COCA as a resource



Next Meeting

- December 5th-6th, Chicago

The COCA Website

<http://www.osteopathic.org/inside-aoa/accreditation/predoctoral%20accreditation/Pages/default.aspx>

Predoctoral Accreditation

The AOA Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) serves the public by establishing, maintaining, and applying accreditation standards and procedures to ensure that academic quality and continuous quality improvement delivered by the colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs) reflect the evolving practice of osteopathic medicine. The scope of the COCA encompasses the accreditation of the COMs.

Accreditation Information

-  [Current List of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine \(COMs\)](#)
-  [New and Developing COMs](#)
- [Third-Party Comments](#)
- [COCA Final Actions](#)
-  [Upcoming Site Visits](#)
- [Current COCA Members and Staff](#)
- [Complaint Review Procedures \(see COM Accreditation Standards p.78\)](#)
-  [COCA Interim Policy on International Accreditation of COMs](#)
- [COCA Reports to AOA House of Delegates](#)
- [COCA Predoctoral Newsletter](#)
- [Osteopathic Medical Profession Report](#)

Accreditation Materials

-  [COCA Handbook](#)



Future

- How do students bring up big issues at their school?
- What would you like to see us do?
- Questions?

- Think of what you would like to ask Dr. Kenneth Johnson