

ARCOM EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

#1. To recruit and graduate osteopathic medical students who and are committed to serving underserved and underrepresented patients in Arkansas, South Central United States, across the United States, and the globe.

Method:

ARCOM will participate in a variety of recruitment activities and utilize the AACOMAS process for the original source of applicants. The Admission Committee will interview and recommend candidates to the Dean. Working in collaboration with student services, offers for admission will be made who are the “best fit” for the ARCOM mission.

Assessment:

Internal reports generated from the Campus Management system will allow us to track and generate reports so we can monitor the full scope of student activity including: recruitment, application, admission, retention, progression and matriculation. Reports will be reviewed by Deans Council and incorporated into the annual report to the Dean, President and Board of Trustees.

External Reports from NBOME will allow ARCOM to track and report to the faculty and administration no less than annually performance of students on the COMSAE mock exam, COMLEX Level 1, 2CE, 2PE, residency placement, COMLEX Level 3, and practice areas.

#2. To provide osteopathic medical education that is holistic, evidence-based, community-focused, and patient-centered while striving for excellence.

Method:

The ARCOM faculty and administration working through the curriculum committee will be charged with the development and assessment of the ARCOM curriculum. Using the helix model, the components of osteopathic medicine, foundations of osteopathic patient care and bio-medical essentials of comprehensive osteopathic medicine will anchor the curriculum model and be integrated and threaded throughout the four year undergraduate medical curriculum. The use of inter-active learning techniques, case scenarios and clinical experience will be used to deliver the curriculum from the patient-centered perspective.

Assessment:

Internal assessments will be conducted through traditional course evaluation process from faculty and students, as well as monthly student meetings with the Dean. The curriculum committee will continually assess the overall outcomes of the educational program to meet our mission and provide timely feedback to the administration in the annual report.

External assessments can be done through comparison of student outcomes to the national benchmark data and mission as results become available.

#3. To develop curriculum, educational opportunities, and faculty role models that ensure the graduates collectively are qualified to enter any medical discipline upon graduation yet strives to influence ARCOM graduates to enter medical fields and disciplines needed for our service area with an emphasis on primary and secondary community-based practices such as family medicine, internal medicine, general surgery, pediatrics, geriatrics, and obstetrics/gynecology.

Method:

Through the use of early clinical experiences and mission trips ARCOM students will participate in patient care activities which expose them to the array of existing health care fields and patient needs. During clinical education ARCOM students will receive training and educational opportunities across including both primary care and specialty medicine.

Assessment:

Internally, the Associate Dean will be responsible for the development and evaluation of clinical education sites with the goal of having quality training opportunities for all students with broad representation of disciplines. Assessment of this training will be done by students and ARCOM administration during site visits with outcomes reported in annual review to the Dean.

Externally, at a local level, training opportunities in this underserved region will expand and patient resources for healthcare should be made available. Successful outcomes of this objective will be reported on the COM Annual Report.

#4. To contribute to the fund of osteopathic medical knowledge and advance cost effective, safe and efficient healthcare for society through educational, scientific and clinical research, promotion of effective health policy, and other scholarly activity.

Method:

As part of the development of an osteopathic physician, ARCOM students will engage in curriculum activities which assist in the development of their knowledge of population based medicine and research.

Assessment:

Internally, the education program allows and encourages students and faculty to be actively engaged in research and community projects. Funding to support research projects has been made available. Outcomes of research activities will be tracked in the research and scholarly activities database and reported in the annual report to the Dean.

Externally, we are forming relationships to collaborate in research activities with the local academic institutions, such as Arkansas Tech and the University of Arkansas. We are planning to host an annual research conference in the community where students, faculty and physician scholars can present their research.

#5. To collaborate with our affiliated hospitals and other partners to develop graduate medical education programs for osteopathic and other healthcare graduates, provide educational advancement opportunities for healthcare professionals; provide healthcare and other educational services to our region.

Method:

The opportunity for the growth of graduate medical education in this region is profound. There is significant excitement within the medical community and ARCOM will be the catalyst for the development and expansion of graduate medical education opportunities, the recruitment of physicians and for opening access to healthcare which has been underserved for decades. Using clinical education opportunities, we will build relationships and provide assistance to our partners to maximize service to this region.

Assessment:

Internally, the catalyst of meeting this component of our objective and mission of ARCOM will be the Associate Dean of Clinical Education. She will be responsible to build a team to meet this objective and provide support services needed by our partners with the assistance of our OPTI TOMEK. Outcomes of this objective will be reported through the OPTI as well as to the ARCOM Dean in the annual report.

Externally, the outcomes of this objective will be reported in the AOA/AACOM Graduate Medical Education report submitted annually. Additionally, the community will see an increase in access to healthcare as additional physicians relocate to the area and more osteopathic medical school graduates locate to the area to pursue their residency education.