



ARKANSAS COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

ARCOM Educational Program Objectives

The mission of the Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine (ARCOM) is to educate and train compassionate osteopathic physicians, skilled in the science of patient-centered osteopathic medical care, dedicated to the ethical and social principles of the osteopathic profession, committed to lifelong learning, and focused on service to the underserved.

ARCOM embraces the training of physicians through programs of study which recognize the unique aspects of osteopathic medicine and its principles and practice. ARCOM's educational program was developed to take full advantage of a novel curricular approach consisting of a team-based and integrative learning environment which approximates current medical care practice in which ARCOM graduates will experience as members of a physician health care team. The integrative function of the curriculum allows cross curricular connections between the basic medical sciences, osteopathic manipulative medicine, and the clinical sciences. As a result, the seven core competencies of osteopathic medicine are effectively addressed throughout all courses. (ARCOM course descriptions are found on pages, 107-122 of the [ARCOM Student Handbook and Academic Catalog, 2018-2019](#)).

ARCOM's curricular program of study is designed so that students who successfully complete the four-year program will be able to:

- Approach the patient with recognition of the entire clinical context, including mind-body and psychosocial interrelationships.
- Demonstrate awareness of and proper attention to issues of culture, religion, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, and mental and physical disabilities both in academic and clinical settings.
- Demonstrate an integrated understanding of foundational biomedical sciences, osteopathic manipulative medicine and clinical medicine so that clinical skills and applied clinical and practical applications may be used to guide them to an appropriate diagnosis and treatment for their patients. Recommend Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMT) as part of a treatment plan if appropriate.
- Take a clinical history, both focused and comprehensive, perform a comprehensive physical exam and select, justify and interpret selected clinical tests and imaging.



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- Diagnose and explain clinical problems in terms of pathogenesis, to develop a basic differential diagnosis, and to learn and demonstrate clinical reasoning and problem identification in the context of evidence-based medicine.
- Collaborate with OMM specialists and other health care providers to maximize patient treatment and outcomes, as well as to advance osteopathic manipulation research and knowledge.
- Demonstrate communication skills and professionalism through clinical assessments, group discussion in team-based learning experiences and/or written or oral patient presentation assignments.
- Demonstrate humanistic behavior, including respect, compassion, probity, honesty, and trustworthiness.
- Utilize various forms of medical informatics to identify, retrieve, understand, analyze, synthesize and apply information related to solving clinical problems, and to remain dedicated to life-long learning.
- Demonstrate an understanding of scientific inquiry and research through curricular instruction regarding aspects of human subject research, laboratory biosafety, mentored clinical or bench research projects and the preparation, presentation and publication of original research.
- Demonstrate knowledge of and the ability to apply ethical principles in the practice and research of osteopathic medicine, particularly in the areas of provision or withholding of clinical care, confidentiality of patient information, informed consent and business practices.
- Apply an understanding of public policy and the social, cultural and economic factors that impact medicine and to develop recognition of their legal and ethical obligations as medical professionals.
- Pass all levels of the COMLEX-USA exam and successfully match into ACGME accredited residency programs.