

Contact

Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine
7000 Chad Colley Blvd.
Fort Smith, AR 72917

Main phone: (479) 308-2200

[Website](#)

Admissions office

Email: admissions@arcomedu.org

Phone: (479) 308-2200

Fax: (479) 308-2266

[Admissions Website](#)

General Information

Mission Statement

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. This mission will be accomplished at the undergraduate and graduate medical education levels through excellence in teaching, research, service, and scholarly activity.

COM Description

Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine (ARCOM) is a new, state-of-the-art medical school located in Fort Smith, Arkansas. ARCOM will train physicians using small group learning focusing on the integration of basic science knowledge with clinical application.

Campus setting:

Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine (ARCOM) is located on 228 acres of land at Chaffee Crossing in Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Year founded: 2014

Type: Private, non-profit

Accreditation:

Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine (ARCOM) received pre-accreditation status from the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) on July 1, 2016.

Institutional affiliation:

Arkansas Colleges of Health Education

Facilities:

The campus features a 102,000 square foot facility in the second largest city in Arkansas. Nestled in the river valley region, the building promotes the highest level in information technology. Our team-based learning curriculum is supported by 20 student conference/study rooms, and ten standardized patient/OSCE rooms.

The Simulation Lab will offer students the opportunity to experience real life, hands-on training. The Anatomy Lab and Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Lab will each accommodate 80 students with the latest technology. A total of 7,000 square feet has been designated as research space with 3,500 square feet already completed as research laboratories.

Student residence options:

On-campus housing is available at The Residents apartments. One hundred and sixty-four units with one- and two-bedroom layouts feature the following amenities: swimming pool, fitness center, pavilion, dog park, study rooms, washer and dryer, refrigerator, microwave, and 24-hour security. Also included in the affordable price are all utilities, internet, and cable. Located adjacent to ARCOM, The Residents offers students comfort and convenience.

2017-2018 Enrollment

- **Total medical school enrollment:** 162
- **Total male:** 55%
- **Total female:** 45%
- **First-year enrollment:** 162
- **First-year male:** 55%
- **First-year female:** 45%
- **First-year in-state:** 21%
- **First-year out-of-state:** 79%
- **Total enrollment affiliate institutions:** N/A

Curricular Offerings

ARCOM utilizes a helical curriculum with emphasis on active learning and problem solving to prepare students to meet the competencies established by the profession, and to provide opportunity for students to obtain the level of knowledge, skills, and professionalism required of osteopathic physicians.

Emphasizing interdisciplinary collaboration, the curriculum guides students to develop a holistic, osteopathic approach to medicine continuously correlating basic science information and methodology with fundamental clinical application. Early clinical experiences, medical outreach opportunities, classroom lecture demonstration, team-based learning, hands-on laboratory sessions, small-group, case-based learning, the use of standardized patients and simulation, as well as guided independent study opportunities will be utilized. Emphasis is placed on preparing students to become primary care physicians. Goals of the curriculum are to foster not only the acquisition of knowledge and skills, but also the assessment, evaluation, and application of factual knowledge in the clinical context.

Dual Degree / Concurrent Programs

None offered

Preparatory Programs

None offered

Special Programs

None offered

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:** Rolling
- **Submission timing for best consideration:**
For timely consideration, applicants should submit AACOMAS application as early as possible and four weeks prior to the latest filing date. ARCOM conducts a rolling admissions process.

Admissions Process

Applicants must submit a primary application to AACOMAS. All course work and MCAT scores must be verified by AACOMAS before applications will be reviewed. Qualified applicants will be invited to submit a Secondary Application. ARCOM will evaluate applicants with a holistic approach based on fit for our mission as well as academic ability.

First-Year Class Matriculants' Selection Factors:

ARCOM does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, religion, national origin, age, disability, or veteran status in the recruiting and selection of students for admission.

ARCOM seeks to recruit and admit students from Arkansas and surrounding regions who are committed to serving the rural and medically under-served areas of the state and region.

Admission to ARCOM is competitive, selective, and designed to advance ARCOM's mission and values. Any undergraduate major is acceptable as long as prerequisites are completed and taken for credit at regionally accredited college or university recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Complete applications are reviewed by the Admissions Committee to evaluate a candidate's academic ability, knowledge of and commitment to the tenets of osteopathic medicine, community service, professionalism, communication skills, and personal integrity. Competitive applicants are scheduled for an on-campus interview.

Admissions Committee decisions are made at regular intervals during the admissions cycle. Candidates who submit an application early and return all required documents promptly will be at an advantage in the

admissions process. The recommendations of the Admissions Committee are reviewed and acted upon by the Dean in writing to the candidate.

International students (non-U.S. citizens or temporary residents) considered: No

MCAT

- **Oldest MCAT considered:** January 2016
- **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

ARCOM will conduct interviews beginning in August. The schedule includes interviews with faculty, administrators, and/or community representatives. Prospective students will receive information about ARCOM campus life, curriculum, financial aid resources, research opportunities, medical outreach programs, clinical rotation sites, and residency programs affiliated with ARCOM. Applicants will also receive a tour of the campus.

Supplemental Application

- **Supplemental application required?** Yes
- **Earliest supplemental application submission date:** 7/1/2018
- **Supplemental application deadline:** Rolling
- **Supplemental application requirements:**
Secondary Applications will be made available to applicants who are best suited to fulfill the mission, values, and goals of ARCOM. The Secondary Application should be completed and returned electronically along with payment of a non-refundable application fee of \$50. Must also submit at least one, well-informed letter of recommendation from an osteopathic physician (DO) and one letter from a pre-med/health professions committee. In the absence of a pre-med/health committee, two letters from science faculty familiar with the academic work of the applicant may be submitted. ARCOM welcomes additional letters from those well-acquainted with the applicant's academic or professional ability.
- **Fee waiver available:** Yes
- **Waiver conditions:**
AACOMAS waiver
- **Supplemental application sent to the following prospective students:**
Screened applicant: Secondary Applications will be made available to applicants who are best suited to fulfill the mission, values, and goals of ARCOM.
- **Supplemental application fee:** \$50, non-refundable

Premedical Coursework

Science Courses

Required:

- **Biology/Zoology**, 8 semester hours with lab
- **Organic Chemistry**, 8 semester hours with lab
- **Inorganic Chemistry**, 8 semester hours with lab (can be satisfied with General Chemistry I & II with labs)
- **Physics**, 8 semester hours with lab
- **Biochemistry**, 3 semester hours
- **Science Electives**, 4 semester hours

Recommended:

- **Anatomy**
- **Physiology**
- **Cellular Biology**
- **Immunology**
- **Microbiology**
- **Genetics**

Non-Science Courses

Required:

- **College English/Literature**, 6 semester hours

Recommended:

- **Humanities/Philosophy/Theology**
- **Speech/Drama/Debate**

Acceptances

Applicants will be requested to submit necessary matriculation documents, including a deposit, according to the following **AACOMAS 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:** 9/15/2018
- **Latest acceptance date:** Until class is filled; up to first week of matriculation
- **Deferred entrance requests considered:** Yes
- **Orientation / start date for first-year students:** 7/30/2019

Early Decision Program

- **Early Decision Program (EDP) offered:** No

First-Year Class Matriculants

Self-Reported Race/Ethnicity

Matriculants from the 2016-2017 application cycle.

- **American Indian or Alaska Native:** 2%
- **Asian:** 25%
- **Black or African-American:** 3%
- **Hispanic/Latino:** 5%
- **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander:** 0%
- **White:** 66%
- **Multiple Races:** 6%
- **Undisclosed:** N/A

Majors of First-Year Class Matriculants

- **Science majors:** 83%
- **Non-Science majors:** 17%
- **Graduate degree(s):** 33%