



Undergraduate Osteopathic Medical Education

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This article presents basic data about the 19 colleges of osteopathic medicine in the academic year 2002–2003. Information in this article has been adapted from the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM)/American Osteopathic Association (AOA) annual osteopathic medical school questionnaire for the 2002–2003 academic year and fiscal year 2001. In addition, the draft of AACOM's *2003 Annual Statistical Report* and its historical database compiled from previous surveys have been used to prepare this article.

Osteopathic Medical School Applicants

After 6 years of decline in the number of osteopathic medical school applicants, the number of applications for 2003 rose by 1%. However, even with the slight increase for 2003, the total continues to remain considerably lower than the high point in 1997 (10,764). From 9554 applications in 1998, the number of applicants has decreased by 29% (Table 1).

After its peak in 1997, the number of underrepresented minority applicants has steadily decreased. In 1998, a total of 936 underrepresented minority students applied to the 19 colleges of osteopathic medicine. That number dropped to 790 in 1999 before rebounding to 829 in 2000. The decline in underrepresented minority applicants continued in 2001 to 693 and in 2002 to 682; however, that number rebounded again to 732 in 2003. Between 1998 and 2003, the number of underrepresented minority applicants declined by nearly 22%.

In the 2002–2003 academic year, the five colleges with the most applications received were the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, New York College of Osteopathic Medicine of New York Institute of Technology, Midwestern University's Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine of

A.T. Still University of Health Sciences, and Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. But the total number of applications received by these five schools—as well as most of the other 14 colleges of osteopathic medicine—dropped again in the 2002–2003 academic year. Only the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth–Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine showed an increase in the number of applications for the 2002 entering class (Table 2).

Enrollment

Despite a decrease in applications, first-year enrollment continues to increase. First-year enrollment in the 2002–2003 academic year was 3079, an increase of 36 students (Figure).

The percentage of ethnic minority students rose again in 2002–2003. Ethnic minorities (African-American, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanic, and Native American students) represent 24% of the total enrollment in the 2002–2003 academic year (Table 3).

The number of female osteopathic medical students enrolled at the colleges of osteopathic medicine continues to increase. In the 2002–2003 academic year, 44.6% (5099) of all students were women (Table 4).

Geographic Source of First-Year Students

More than half of all first-year osteopathic medical students seek medical education in their home state. Of the 3043 first-year students enrolled at the 19 colleges of osteopathic medicine during the 2001–2002 academic year, 54% were residents of the state in which the college of osteopathic medicine was located. During the 2002–2003 academic year, 1590 (52%) of the first-year students were from the state in which the college of osteopathic medicine was located. The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth–Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine had the highest percentages (97% and 96%, respectively) of in-state students for the 2002–2003 academic year. The University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine had the highest percentage of

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Table 1
Applicants to Osteopathic Medical Schools
Participating in the AACOM Application Service—Ethnic Groups and Women by Entering Year*

Group	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
African-American	442	378	414	335	342	358
Hispanic	416	342	72	290	287	314
Native American	78	70	343	68	55	60
Total underrepresented minority	936	790	829	693	682	732
% Underrepresented minority	9.8	9.4	10.8	10.0	10.8	10.7
White; non-Hispanic	6173	5583	5099	4731	4285	4566
Asian/Pacific Islander	1950	1592	1346	1226	1086	1201
Unknown	495	431	434	609†	269	314
Total all groups	9554	8396	7708	7259	6324	6813
No. of women among total applicants	3881	3518	3402	3151	3058	3347
% Women	40.6	41.9	44.1	43.4	48.4	49.1
Number of COMs participating in AACOMAS‡	19	19	19	18	18	18

*Source: American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Services (AACOMAS). Figures reported here do not include applicants who applied directly to colleges of osteopathic medicine.

†Includes 177 applicants who applied only to the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth–Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, which did not participate in AACOMAS beginning in 2001.

‡Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine and Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine became AACOMAS participants with the 1997–1998 entering class.

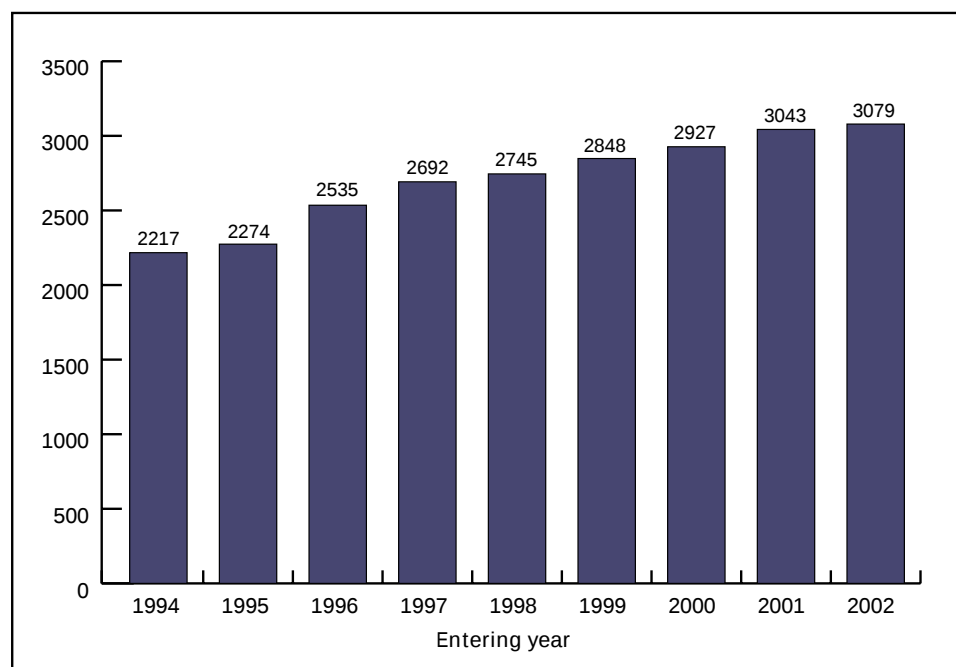


Figure. *Freshman enrollment.*

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Table 2
Number of Applications Received, First-Year Enrollment, and Total Enrollment by School*†

School	No. of applications‡		First-year enrollment		Total enrollment	
	2001–2002	2002–2003	2001–2002	2002–2003	2001–2002	2002–2003
AZCOM	2146	1900	144	154	515	546
CCOM	2664	2070	161	216	646	802
DMU/COMS	2227	2452	212	172	785	643
KCOM	2555	2249	162	165	623	631
LECOM	2360	2093	202	223	640	721
MSUCOM	1692	1621	125	124	527	527
NSUCOM	2236	1977	226	188	735	757
NYCOMS	2836	2569	316	333	1088	1147
OSU-COM	1075	1059	91	90	346	348
OU-COM	2031	1918	112	114	423	432
PCOM	3430	3154	256	266	1011	1013
PCSOM	1384	1264	64	65	246	251
TUCOM	2021	1805	125	130	385	443
UHS-COM	2230	2042	249	228	888	887
UMDNJ-SOM	1719	1564	89	90	322	327
UNECOM	1990	1903	120	131	460	468
UNTHSC	1152	1159	122	127	465	479
COMP	2239	1936	187	182	702	702
WVSOM	1408	1372	80	81	296	308
Total	39,395	36,107	3043	3079	11,103	11,432

*Source: American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine/American Osteopathic Association Annual Osteopathic Medical School Questionnaire, 2002–2003 academic year. †Full names of colleges with abbreviations appear in the Appendix.

‡The number of applications indicated is not an unduplicated count of applicants as in Table 1. The same applicant reported here may be listed by several schools.

§Enrollment data include students in the Accelerated Program for Émigré Physicians (APEP).

out-of-state students for the 2002–2003 academic year (88%; Table 5). Because of their special funding relationships with the states, the public colleges generally admit a much higher proportion of state residents than do private schools.

College Record of Freshmen

Freshmen entering the 2002–2003 academic year had a mean grade point average (GPA) of 3.43, which has remained constant since the 2001–2002 academic year. Mean MCAT scores for these freshman were as follows:

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Table 3
Total Enrollment and Percentage of
Minority Ethnic Groups* by School†‡

School	Minority	
	2001-2001 No. (%)	2002-2003 No. (%)
AZCOM	110 (21.4)	91 (16.7)
CCOM	176 (27.2)	161 (25.0)
DMU/COMS	80 (10.2)	83 (10.3)
KCOM	93 (14.9)	87 (13.8)
LECOM	81 (12.7)	98 (13.6)
MSUCOM	105 (19.9)	98 (18.6)
NSUCOM	235 (32.0)	241 (31.8)
NYCOM§	454 (41.7)	477 (41.6)
OSU-COM	66 (19.1)	70 (20.1)
OU-COM	111 (26.2)	101 (23.4)
PCOM	207 (20.5)	208 (20.5)
PCSOM	18 (7.3)	19 (7.6)
TUCOM	128 (33.2)	109 (24.6)
UHS-COM	117 (13.2)	130 (14.7)
UMDNJ-SOM	147 (45.7)	149 (45.6)
UNECOM	42 (9.1)	42 (9.0)
UNTHSC	176 (37.8)	167 (34.9)
COMP	319 (45.4)	338 (48.1)
WVSOM	13 (4.4)	19 (6.2)
All schools	2678 (24.1)	2688 (24.0)

*Minority ethnic groups include Black, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, and Native American students.

†Full names of colleges with abbreviations appear in the Appendix.

‡Source: American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine/American Osteopathic Association Annual Osteopathic Medical School Questionnaire, 2002-2003 academic year.

§Data include students in the Accelerated Program for Émigré Physicians (APEP).

Table 4
Total Enrollment and Enrollment of Women at Colleges of
Osteopathic Medicine*

Entering year	Total enrollment	
	Total	No. of women (%)
1992	7375	2512 (34.1)
1993†	7822	2714 (34.7)
1994	8146	2870 (35.2)
1995	8475	3075 (36.3)
1996‡	8961	3308 (36.9)
1997§	9434	3591 (38.1)
1998	9882	3862 (39.1)
1999	10,388	4181 (40.2)
2000	10,817	4443 (41.1)
2001	11,103	4781 (43.1)
2002	11,432	5099 (44.6)

*Source: American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine/American Osteopathic Association Annual Osteopathic Medical School Questionnaire, 2002-2003 academic year.

†Data include LECOM, which enrolled its first class of 61 students in 1993, 17 of whom were women.

‡Data include the Accelerated Program for Émigré Physicians (APEP) at NYCOM and AZCOM's first class of 103, including 33 women.

§Data include PCSOM and TUCOM first classes of 60 students (14 women) and 66 students (26 women), respectively.

biological sciences, 8.5; physical sciences, 7.97; and verbal reasoning, 8.06.

Faculty

The 19 colleges of osteopathic medicine had 12,522 faculty members in 2002-2003, including full-time, part-time, and volunteer faculty. Most (77.6%) full-time and part-time faculty serving the colleges of osteopathic medicine teach the clinical sciences, with the remainder in preclinical sciences (22.4% in 2002-2003). In the 2002-2003 academic year, approximately 79.8% of the faculty at the 19 colleges of osteopathic medicine were volunteer faculty. The largest percentage of full-time and part-time academicians teach general practice / family practice (Table 6).

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Table 5
Number of State Residents and Nonresidents Enrolled in First Year by School*

School†	2001-2002			2002-2003		
	No. of residents	No. of nonresidents	Total	No. of residents	No. of nonresidents	Total
AZCOM	37	107	144	45	109	154
CCOM	81	80	161	76	96	172
DMU/COMS	66	146	212	52	164	216
KCOM	24	138	162	26	139	165
LECOM	97	105	202	78	145	223
MSUCOM	112	13	125	119	5	124
NSUCOM	130	96	226	97	91	188
NYCOM‡	220	96	316	207	126	333
OSU-COM	79	12	91	77	13	90
OU-COM	94	18	112	93	21	114
PCOM	155	101	256	177	89	266
PCSOM	39	25	64	27	38	65
TUCOM	80	45	125	66	64	130
UHS-COM	28	221	249	28	200	228
UMDNJ-SOM	75	14	89	83	7	90
UNECOM	22	98	120	25	106	131
UNTHSC	118	4	122	123	4	127
COMP	147	40	187	140	42	182
WVSOM	54	26	80	51	30	81
Total	1658	1385	3043	1590	1489	3079

*Source: American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine/American Osteopathic Association Annual Osteopathic Medical School Questionnaire, 2002-2003 academic year.

†Full names of colleges with abbreviations appear in the Appendix.

‡Includes students in the Accelerated Program for Emigré Physicians (APEP).

Tuition

For the academic year 2002-2003, tuition averaged \$14,128 for in-state residents in public schools and \$26,759 in private schools. For out-of-state residents, tuition averaged \$29,460 in public schools and \$27,645 in private schools (Table 7).

Income and Expenditures of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

As of this writing, the income and expenditures for fiscal year 2002 were not available and will be published in a future edition of the *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*.

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Table 6
Full-time Faculty Assignments by Discipline*

Discipline	Percent of Faculty Assigned	
	2001-2002	2002-2003
Anatomy	7.5	7.8
Biochemistry	4.2	4.6
Emergency medicine	0.5	0.6
General practice/ family practice	16.6	17.2
Geriatrics	2.2	2.2
Internal medicine	9.3	10.3
Microbiology	6.5	5.9
Neurology	1.2	1.1
Obstetrics/gynecology	2.6	3.3
Osteopathic principles	6.0	5.0
Pathology	3.0	3.2
Pediatrics	3.5	3.6
Pharmacology	4.9	4.7
Physical medicine/ rehabilitation medicine	1.0	0.9
Physiology	5.2	4.9
Preventive medicine/ public health	2.7	2.6
Psychiatry	5.8	5.2
Radiology	1.6	1.1
Surgery (general)	3.0	3.4
Other†	12.6	12.4

*Source: American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine/American Osteopathic Association Annual Osteopathic Medical School Questionnaire, 2002-2003 academic year.

†Includes anesthesiology, dermatology, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery, otolaryngology, and urology.

NOTE: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Table 7
Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Tuition*
(Subject to Change)

School	Tuition	
	State residents	Nonresidents
Private		
AZCOM	\$30,283	\$30,283
CCOM	25,878	31,430
DMU/COMS	25,475	25,475
KCOM	26,450	26,450
LECOM	22,720	23,720
NSUCOM	20,800	25,772
NYCOM	26,775	26,775
PCOM	27,985	27,985
PCSOM	25,000	25,000
TUCOM	28,000	28,000
UHS-COM	29,990	29,990
UNECOM	29,100	29,100
COMP	29,410	29,410
Mean	\$26,759	\$27,645
Public		
MSUCOM	\$17,838	\$39,438
OSU-COM	11,558	30,144
OU-COM	16,472	23,976
UMDNJ-SOM	18,143	28,392
UNTHSC	6550	19,650
WVSOM	14,206	35,158
Mean	\$14,128	\$29,460

*Source: American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine/American Osteopathic Association annual osteopathic medical school questionnaire, 2001-2002 academic year.