



April 2024

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A Letter from Our Senior Vice President of Medical Education

Dear Colleagues and Esteemed Members of the National Association of Advisors for Health Professions,

I am Rance McClain, DO the Senior Vice President of Medical Education at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM). We are pleased to present to you this newsletter and update from our organization to yours. As we navigate through another productive academic year, this newsletter aims to bridge our collaborative efforts and foster a deeper understanding and partnership between our institutions. Our shared commitment to advancing health education and cultivating the next generation of healthcare professionals is more critical than ever. In this endeavor, we hope to highlight significant developments and achievements in osteopathic medical education that are pivotal not only to our member colleges but also resonate with the broader goals of health profession advisories.

In these pages, we hope to provide you a comprehensive overview of recent initiatives and educational innovations from across our organization. We are excited to share updates on our profession's education models that emphasize holistic, patient-centered care—an approach that osteopathic medical education has championed for decades. Additionally, we explore the impacts of our collaborative efforts in public health, which are playing a crucial role in shaping health policy and practice on a national scale. Through our continued partnership, we hope to provide valuable insights and resources that will aid you in advising the future leaders in healthcare effectively and with the most current knowledge at hand.

It is our hope that through this newsletter we can help you be more fully informed and prepared to talk about osteopathic medicine as not just a viable option, but one that will resonate with the students you serve as a preferred pathway to health professions education. Our profession prides itself in providing education and healthcare services that are focused on the communities in which we live and work. We look forward to broadening these lines of communication between our organizations and partnering together to guide the next generations of osteopathic physicians. Please let us know what you would like to learn from us so we can make sure to form this newsletter in a way to optimize its impact. Together we can work to provide a healthier future for us all.

Osteopathically,
Rance McClain, DO

AACOMAS 24-25 Cycle Opens Next Month

AACOM is pleased to share that the 2024-2025 AACOMAS application cycle will open for submissions on May 6, 2024. Medical schools will begin to receive submitted applications from AACOMAS on May 6, 2024. The initial application fee of \$198 will cover the primary application and one college designation. Each additional college designation will cost \$57.

Students seeking to explore osteopathic medicine should be directed to our resources at <https://choosedo.org/>. Applicants are encouraged to explore the profiles for our colleges of osteopathic medicine which can be found in the ChooseDO Explorer here: <https://www.aacom.org/explore-med-schools/choose-do-explorer>.

Key Updates to the 2024-2025 AACOMAS Application cycle:

Internal AACOM Questions

Applicants will be asked to respond to several questions about their previous exposure to osteopathic medicine and their experience with the AACOMAS application. These questions are for internal use at AACOM only. Responses to these questions are required but will not be shared externally.

Professional Transcript Entry

Applicants now have the option to pay for a Professional Transcript Entry (PTE) service. For a fee, PTE specialists will enter all completed coursework from accredited schools. Coursework from unlisted schools, foreign coursework, and planned/in-progress courses are ineligible for PTE and must be entered by the applicant.



Upcoming Events of AACOM UME Activity

- May 1, 2024 ChooseDO CareerEco Virtual Fair - Register [here](#).
- May 30-June 1, 2024 - American Medical Student Association (AMSA) Future Physicians for Change Conference
- June 26-28, 2024 - HOSA International Leadership Conference
- June 26-30, 2024 - NAAHP Annual Conference
- September 25, 2024 ChooseDO Virtual Fair - Register [here](#).

Bookmark our events calendar to stay up to date on our latest college recruiting events: <https://www.aacom.org/become-a-doctor/prepare-for-medical-school/com-recruiting-events>

What's New with AACOMAS Presentation

Our team at AACOM would like to extend a special thank you to those of you who were able to join our What's New with AACOMAS for Advisors Webinar held on April 4th.

For those of you who were not able to join, or for those who may wish to re-watch the webinar, please see the PowerPoint and recording [here](#)

Let us know how we did! Your feedback on this webinar is helpful and much appreciated as we do our best to ensure our programming is meeting your needs and your students' needs.

What If They Didn't Get In?

Admission to medical school is competitive and there are several things applicants can do to strengthen their application for the next cycle. As you speak to students who may not have received any offers of admission, please encourage them to consider the following:

- Take additional courses to strengthen their background in science. [Post-baccalaureate premedical programs](#) are a great option.
- Gain additional clinical experience to strengthen their background in the health professions and to confirm their desire to go to medical school. The American Osteopathic Association maintains an [online national directory of practicing DOs](#) students can contact to inquire about shadowing opportunities.
- Compare their MCAT scores to the [mean for entering students](#) and retake the test if needed.
- Contact the COMs they've applied to for feedback on how to become a more competitive applicant.
- Enhance their interview skills using our [tips and resources](#).
- Attend an [AACOM Recruitment Event](#) to stay in touch with their schools of interest.

Record-Setting 92.3 Percent of DO Students Match into Residency

This year the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) celebrated a record residency match and the largest class of osteopathic medical (DO) students to ever participate in the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP)'s Match Week. According to the NRMP, the percentage of matching DO seniors rose to 92.3 percent, the highest ever during the single match era. In addition, the number of U.S. DO seniors participating was a record high 8033, an increase of 8.0 percent over 2023. Of those, 7412 matched to first-year residency positions, an 8.8 percent increase from last year, also a new record high.

Advisor Resources

Be sure to visit and bookmark our [Pre-Health Advisor Resources](#) page to support your ongoing work with prospective medical students.

Accessing the UAP Portal

The Universal Advisor Portal Help Center provides key information on using the Universal Advisor Portal (UAP). If you have questions, please contact UAP Support:

- Open Monday – Friday from 9am-5pm ET
- Phone: (857) 304-2020
- Email: advisors@liaisonedu.com

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