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Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine Fact Sheet

What is Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine's (MSU COM) mission statement?

"The Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine is committed to excellence in osteopathic education, research and service through the Statewide Campus System. The college fully prepares osteopathic physicians to respond to public need in a dynamic health care environment."

Where can I find additional information about MSU COM?

- MSU COM Website: <http://www.com.msu.edu/>
- American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine website: <http://www.aacom.org>

What is Osteopathic Medicine?

Osteopathic medicine provides all of the benefits of modern medicine including prescription drugs, surgery, and the use of technology to diagnose disease and evaluate injury. It also offers the added benefit of hands-on diagnosis and treatment through a system of therapy known as osteopathic manipulative medicine. Osteopathic medicine emphasizes helping each person achieve a high level of wellness by focusing on health promotion and disease prevention.

What were the enrollment statistics for the class of 2015?

- Applications received: 6,030
- First-year enrollment (admitted): 325

81% of admits were Michigan residents and 25 students were Canadian

What entrance exam is required and what GPA do I need for admission to MSU COM?

MCAT	GPA
The average MCAT score for the class of 2015 was between 28-29. Here the range is somewhat narrower than the GPA review. If you are disappointed with your scores, don't be afraid to retake the MCAT. Success in medical school requires discipline and perseverance, so they look for individuals who keep trying to improve their performance. <i>If a student has multiple MCAT scores, the highest composite MCAT within the last 3 years is considered.</i>	The average for each entering class has consistently been 3.5 to 3.6. The range is fairly broad, with greatest emphasis placed on the science GPA. For those who got a slow start, they look for steady improvement. Most important are your grades in upper level science classes taken during the junior and senior years. Course work in the biological sciences and in biochemistry receives the closest scrutiny. <i>Students with lower GPAs are encouraged to take 16 or more credits of post-baccalaureate work to strengthen their GPA and demonstrate academic potential.</i>

What else do I need to do to be a competitive applicant to MSU COM?

Besides GPA and MCAT scores, MSU COM evaluates a number of nonacademic factors, which can include:

- Service to the Community (MSU COM admits typically have **1200+ hours** of volunteer work)
 - Can include high school experiences (on secondary app)
 - Must have some medical experience(s)
- Understanding Osteopathic Medicine
- Extra-Curricular Activities
- Paid Employment
- Sports
- Overseas Study/Travel
- Leadership
- Team Building
- Cultural Competency

What do I need to know about applying to MSU COM?

- Like most DO schools, MSU COM uses **AACOMAS** as their application server: <https://aacomas.aacom.org/>. The application deadline is **December 1st** and the deadline to submit transcripts is **December 15th**; however, the class is typically full by December and it is strongly recommended to apply before September 1st.
- **Supplemental Applications** are sent to all applicants immediately after AACOMAS submission, and it is completed online. On the supplemental application, applicants have the opportunity to talk about why they are pursuing osteopathic medicine (i.e. DO exposure, how they discovered DO, why is DO right for you?) and complete additional information about themselves that would not be found elsewhere on their application. Applicants also have the opportunity to upload a photo of themselves.
- Two **Letters of Evaluation** are required from two people who know you very well (i.e. advisor, professor, coach, supervisor). Letters should NOT be from family members or close family friends. A committee letter is accepted for one of the two letters.
- **MSU COM does not conduct interviews** in most cases; although they will be piloting an interview program for a small group of applicants in 2014. The pilot interview program will consist of 4 Multi-Mini Interview stations and a group interview with current COM students. Letters of Evaluation are highly regarded in admission decisions.
- **Tuition and Fees** for 2012 are \$36,741 (in-state).
- Applicants may choose to apply to the dual degree programs offered by MSU: **DO/PhD** or **DO/MPH**.

What is it like to be a MSU COM student?

MSU COM students benefit from:

- The Resources of a Big 10 University - Michigan State University
- First two years taught at 3 different sites
- The Statewide Campus System (SCS) where MSUCOM students and residents study at hospital campuses across Michigan
- Success in the Residency Matches in both Osteopathic and Allopathic areas
- Various extracurricular/elective opportunities
- International Health Outreach Opportunities
- Learning and Outreach through Student Organizations

In 2013, MSU COM graduates had a 96% residency match rate; there were 1.5 residency spots for every grad. 1/3 of DO residencies are in Michigan. Approximately 50% chose allopathic residencies, 50% chose osteopathic residencies.

MSU COM Curriculum	
Preclerkship Program (Years 1 & 2)	The preclerkship curriculum is a seven semester sequence of courses. During the first three semesters, students are immersed in introductory basic science concepts. Students are also introduced to physical examination, doctor-patient interactions, and the principles of osteopathic palpatory diagnosis and manipulative therapy. What follows is a sequence of courses with an emphasis on learning content presented in a series of courses dealing with body systems. These courses provide integrated presentations of basic and behavioral science concepts and clinical aspects of each body system. Students are required to master clinical skills associated with their body systems courses and to participate in college clinics with supervision. Students are provided their first clinical exposure in family practice clinics during semesters 4 and 5. The students observe and selectively participate in patient care and office management under the direct supervision of the physician.
Clinical Clerkship Program (Years 3 & 4)	The Clinical Clerkship curriculum leading to the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree is an 84-week program designed to educate and equip osteopathic physicians with skills necessary to enable them to enter primary care practice or pursue further graduate training related to a medical specialty. In the Clinical Clerkship program, there is a planned emphasis on preparing students for practice in ambulatory settings. MSUCOM's curricular emphasis reflects the college's responsiveness to the shifts in practice environment from hospital to outpatient care, by providing increased continuity in training and offering students experience working with allied health professionals in a team approach. The college has developed an innovative primary care ambulatory clerkship (PCAC) program to teach medical students the clinical skills they will need to function in the 21st century. The ambulatory clerkship includes 24 weeks of clinical education in various community ambulatory care settings. This clerkship includes clinical education objectives from family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, and psychiatry.

For more information on the College of Osteopathic Medicine, contact:

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