



Pre-Osteopathic Medicine Program & Pre-SOMA

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A Brief History of Osteopathic Medicine

Medicine - Osteopathy



- ❑ A system of therapy based on the theory that the body is capable of making its own remedies against disease and other toxic conditions when it has normal structural relationship, favorable environmental conditions, and adequate nutrition
- ❑ It utilizes generally accepted physical, medicinal, and surgical methods of diagnosis and therapy, while placing chief emphasis on the importance of normal body mechanics and manipulative methods of detecting and correcting faulty structure



History of Osteopathic Medicine

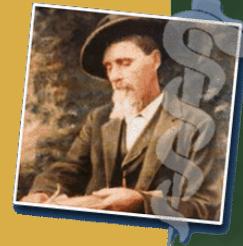


- ❑ Osteopathic medicine is a unique form of American medical care that was developed in 1874 by frontier doctor Andrew Taylor Still
- ❑ Dr. Still was dissatisfied with the effectiveness of 19th century medicine
- ❑ He believed that many of the medications of his day were useless or even harmful
- ❑ Dr. Still was one of the first in his time to study the attributes of good health so that he could better understand the process of disease



History of Osteopathic Medicine

- ❑ In response, Dr. Still founded a philosophy of medicine based on ideas that date back to Hippocrates, the Father of Medicine
- ❑ The philosophy focuses on the unity of all body parts
- ❑ He identified the musculoskeletal system as a key element of health
- ❑ He recognized the body's ability to heal itself and stressed preventive medicine, eating properly, and keeping fit



Why WVSOM?





What is the Pre-Osteopathic Program?



The goal of the program is to promote osteopathic medicine, increase the number of excellent applicants, support aspiring Osteopathic physicians at all levels of education, and continue the proud legacy of Osteopathic Medicine. This program will ensure that students will have the opportunity to network with medical students, medical professionals, provide/assist with shadowing opportunities, while at the same time improving their knowledge of osteopathic medicine.



What's in it for you?



- ❑ Students will be assigned a faculty mentor to monitor their progress and to answer their questions.
- ❑ Students will receive an expedited application review to WVSOM and an early admission interview
- ❑ Pending successful completion of their medical interview, students will receive an acceptance to WVSOM prior to their senior year of college
- ❑ Students will also have the opportunity to meet with WVSOM alumni, students, and faculty.
- ❑ Students will have the opportunity to participate in a series of lectures including but not limited to the history of osteopathy medicine.

Switching Gears (Pre-SOMA)



Pre-Student Osteopathic Medical Association (Pre-SOMA)



WHAT IS PRE-SOMA?

- ❑ Pre-SOMA is the undergraduate division of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) , a national organization of students pursuing a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Degree. Pre-SOMA is a way for pre-medical students to become a part of this community before getting into medical school. It's a way to help decide if osteopathic medicine is for you. Membership is free!
- ❑ National Pre-SOMA works hard to promote Osteopathic medicine, increase the number of applicants to Osteopathic medical schools, support aspiring Osteopathic physicians at all levels of education, and continue the proud legacy of Osteopathic Medicine. The Pre-SOMA Website is your place for more information on how you can get involved in osteopathic medicine as a Pre-Medical student! This is your place to learn about osteopathic medicine, keep up to date with upcoming Pre-SOMA events, and a chance to interact directly with current osteopathic medical students.

Start A Chapter



Here are some benefits to having a chapter on your college campus:

- ❑ Access to the latest info on news in the osteopathic community
- ❑ Access to the Pre-SOMA Liaison List, a list of osteopathic students from DO schools who are interested in helping your chapter by giving you a local link to the osteopathic family
- ❑ Opportunities to be involved with Pre-SOMA in national leadership positions
- ❑ Resources and mentorship from National Pre-SOMA to help your chapter grow and stay strong
- ❑ Networking opportunities with other Pre-SOMA chapters for idea sharing
- ❑ Opportunity to apply for Chapter of the Year and Officer of the Year
- ❑ Becoming a New Student Club/Organization

What to do



While the process for starting a new club/organization at every undergraduate college or university is different, here are some guidelines to keep in mind. *Check with the specific policy on your campus for more details.*

Any group of students (numbers vary by school) that want to organize to pursue a common interest may start a student organization:

1. Apply for Recognition - This process again, varies by school, but an authorized representative of your college or university must sign the "Verification of Student Organization Status" form. Recognition of a group as a student club/organization establishes an identity and relationship with the school which enables that organization to secure the use of college facilities and services.
2. Develop a Constitution - A basic outline for the constitution is included in the new chapter application (see below). A signed copy of the National Pre-SOMA constitution must accompany the application for National recognition, and an individualized Chapter Constitution must be created and submitted to the National office by the beginning of the Spring Semester of the year of charter application. This can be the same as the national, or you can make changes if you need.
3. Elect and/or Select Officers - A list with names, addresses, and phone numbers of the officers must accompany the application; and an Officer Update form must be submitted by the chapter each summer by June 15st.
4. Select an Advisor- Select a willing faculty advisor from your college or university who will assist with oversight of the organization and help to provide continuity over the years, as student officers come and go.
5. Maintain "Active" Status- To maintain active status, a club must complete and submit all of the required forms, and download and read the Pre-SOMA Kit.

And as always, feel free to send questions to presoma@studentdo.com !