

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) – Arizona Campus

A.T. Still University

Home of the world's first osteopathic medical school, founded in 1892, A.T. Still University is a renowned healthcare education and training university and a leading educator in multidisciplinary whole-person healthcare. ATSU's schools include the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (KCOM), the School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (SOMA), the Arizona School of Health Sciences (ASHS), the Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ASDOH), and the online School of Health Management (SHM).

School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona

The primary goal of A.T. Still University's School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (ATSU-SOMA) is to create exceptional physicians. ATSU-SOMA integrates a unique and innovative curriculum combined with early clinical experiences that prepare students for a valuable and meaningful future in osteopathic medicine. SOMA is looking for students that are eager to be a part of a new generation of osteopathic physicians, students that have a desire to become compassionate and forward thinking doctors, and students that are seeking an exciting alternative to the traditional and routine methods of medical education.

ATSU-SOMA uses the Clinical Presentation Educational Model which holds that there are approximately 120 different ways that a patient can present to a physician. Students learn by studying the 120 Clinical Presentations in depth. Students also learn inductive reasoning skills which will assist in developing the ability to assess and diagnose patients more efficiently. Basic sciences are bundled with clinical sciences in order to give students a more comprehensive and practical foundation for each medical discipline. The overall design of this curriculum emphasizes clinical competencies. Osteopathic principles and practices are incorporated into every course, providing distinct training in the value of the healing touch in whole patient care.

The Curriculum

Students spend their first year on the Mesa, Arizona campus learning together in large and small groups, using real-life patient interactions and simulated clinical experiences. Simulation based education is utilized through the use of 11 Advanced Human Patient Simulators to challenge and test students' clinical and decision making skills during realistic patient care scenarios. Students' education in years two through four will be based at one of 11 select Community Campuses across the country. In the second year students will have the opportunity to observe patient care firsthand at their Community Campus. Students will continue their academic education through small group learning, lead by community campus faculty who are practicing physicians, as well as through various distance education technologies. In years three and four, students will complete their clinical rotations in hospitals, clinics, and healthcare institutions that are associated or affiliated with their Community Campus.

Community Campuses

1. Lutheran Healthcare System, Brooklyn, NY
2. Beaufort-Jasper-Hampton Comprehensive Health Services, Ridgeland, SC
3. Alabama Medical Education Consortium, representing Alabama's Community Health Centers, Troy, AL
4. Southern Ohio Health Services Network, Milford, OH
5. North Country Community Health Center's Northern Arizona Health Education Center, Flagstaff, AZ
6. Clinica Adelante Community Campus based in Phoenix, AZ
7. El Rio Health Center, Tucson, AZ
8. Family HealthCare Network, Visalia, CA
9. NW Consortium, Portland, OR
10. Community Health Centers of King County, King County, WA
11. Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health, Waianae, HI

Requirements for Admission

1. Applicants must have completed a bachelor of art or science degree from a regionally accredited institution.
2. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
3. The applicant must have achieved a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point average overall and a 2.5 minimum science grade point average on a 4.0 scale.
4. Applicants are required to submit scores from the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). The college requires MCAT test scores to be taken within three years of application.
5. Applicants must have completed the following courses with a C- or better prior to matriculation:
 - General Biology – one year with laboratory or 8 semester hours/12 quarter hours
 - Physics – one year with laboratory or 8 semester hours/12 quarter hours
 - General or Inorganic Chemistry – one year with laboratory or 8 semester hours/12 quarter hours
 - Organic Chemistry – one year with laboratory or 8 semester hours/12 quarter hours
 - English – one year or 6 semester hours/8 quarter hours
 - Courses in biochemistry and comparative or human anatomy are recommended.

Class of 2013

Applications Received	3,287
Applicants Interviewed	483
Average GPA	3.52
Average Science GPA	3.32
Average Age	26
Average MCAT	25
States represented	29
In-state	10%
Out-of-state	90%

Application Information

SOMA participates in the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (AACOMAS). Primary applications may be completed at <https://aacomas.aacom.org>. SOMA's application deadline is March 1. SOMA has a rolling admissions cycle, and applicants are encouraged to apply early.

Tuition and Expenses

Annual tuition for the School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona for 2009-2010 is estimated at \$38,275 for the first year. In addition, all students will be assessed annual fees for additional education supplies. Average book cost per semester is \$600, and the cost of medical equipment for the first year is approximately \$1,300. Tuition and fees are subject to change and will be determined by the ATSU Board of Trustees.

Financial Assistance

Financial support, including private and federal loans, is available for students accepted into SOMA through Student Financial Assistance. This department assists students in developing a comprehensive financial assistance package based on individual need. In addition, guidance in seeking federal, state, and local scholarships, tuition assistance or loan repayment is available. Special programs are accessible for graduates returning to practice in underserved communities. For additional information, contact financialaid@atsu.edu.

Accreditation

The School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona has received provisional accreditation status from the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) of the American Osteopathic Association, 142 East Ontario St., Chicago, IL 60611, phone 800.621.1773. ATSU is accredited through The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602, phone 800.621.7440.

For additional information, contact ATSU Admissions
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