

DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE (DO) FACT SHEET



Last Updated: June 2025

TRADITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Check with individual schools for more information

Helpful Resources:

[American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine](#)

Osteopathic Schools in Michigan:

[Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine](#)

All DO Medical Schools - AACOM - [Choose DO Explorer](#)

MCAT COURSE REQUIREMENTS	Successful Completion is needed with a B or C (Depending on Program)	
General Biology	BIO 1200 (4 credits) BIO 1300 (4 credits) BIO 1201 (1 credit)	*Note: Some majors take additional Biology courses to cover BIO 1300 material
General Physics	PHY 1010 (4 credits) PHY 1100 (1 credit) PHY 1020 (4 credits) PHY 1110 (1 credit)	
General Chemistry	CHM 1440 (4 credits)	

	CHM 1470 (1 credit) CHM 1450 (4 credits) CHM 1480 (1 credit)	
Organic Chemistry	CHM 2340 (4 credits) CHM 2350 (4 credits) CHM 2370 (2 credit)	
Biochemistry	BIO 3232 (4 credits) Or BCM 4254 (4 credits) Or CHM 4254 (4 credits)	
Physiology	BIO 2600 (4 credits)	
Statistics	STA 2222 (4 credits) Or STA 2226 (4 credits) Or STA 2221 (4 credits)	*Note: Any variation of statistics is acceptable
Psychology	PSY 1000 (4 credits)	
Sociology	SOC 1000 (4 credits) Or SOC 1010 (4 credits)	
English	6 semester credit hours	
Additional Coursework Suggestions for Non-Science Majors	Microbiology Anatomy Advanced Physiology Genetics Immunology Pathophysiology	

GPA
<u>National GPA Standard</u> Total Mean GPA: 3.60 (2024) Total Science GPA: 3.52 3.0 Minimum Prerequisite GPA <i>Resources</i> <u>Academic Support</u> helps with effective studying, time management, test preparation, tackling difficult assignments, and improving strategies for college-level work.

[Academic Success Center](#) (tutoring)
[Writing Center](#)

Course/Credit Expiration & Pass Fail- Things to consider

Program	Pass/Fail	Credit Expiration	Prereq Completion
MSU	Accepted but prefer letter grading	N/A but proficiency is required	Completed before starting classes in July

Experience

Applicants are also evaluated on nonacademic factors. Some examples may include Shadowing, Community Service, Researching, Leadership Skills, Teamwork, Diversity Experience, Teaching, Publications etc.

Resources

[Office of Student Involvement \(OSI\)](#) has student organizations which can help with Leadership Skills, Volunteering and Community Service.

[The Writing Center](#) will help on how to write about your experiences.

****Character count cannot exceed 600 characters per experience (including spaces)****

Examination

MCAT

****Take when ready. Aim to take once.****

MCAT Test Sections:

Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems, Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems, Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior and Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills.

[Registration for MCAT](#)

[MCAT Scoring and Interpretation](#)

COST: \$345

[National Mean Score for DO:](#) 502.97 (2024)

Test Prep Resources:

Free Resources

[Learning Express](#) - contact Kresge Library for any questions

[Khan Academy](#)

[Jack Westin](#) - Question Bank

[Anki Flashcards](#)

Other Resources

[AAMC Official MCAT Prep](#)

[Blueprint](#)

[UWorld](#) - Question Bank

[Exam Crackers](#)

[Jack Westin](#)

[PACE](#) - Oakland University (Kaplan)

[Princeton Review](#)

[Altius Test Prep](#)

Application

[American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service](#) (AACOMAS)

Beginning of May- Application Opens

Mid June - Colleges begin receiving applications

Cost

[Primary Application](#)

-\$198 for first school

-\$60 for each additional school

[Supplemental Application](#)

\$25-\$100

Personal Statement

A personal statement is for you to express your motivation and desire to become a doctor and what makes you unique as an applicant. This statement is sent to all the schools you apply to, so you don't want to direct it to a specific school. It should be more of a story, not a resume and should not list experiences again.

The statement must be no more than 5300 characters, including spaces.

Resources

[Writing Center](#) For help with writing your personal statement.

Letter of Recommendation

3 to 5 Letters of Recommendation

Each school requires different types of individuals to write the letters

Examples: Professor, Supervisor, Physician, etc.

- One letter from DO Physician may be required (depends on program)

Resources

[Guideline for Writing a Letter of Evaluation for Medical School Applicants](#)

Supplemental Application

Each school will require a Supplemental Application. This usually consists of several questions that need to be answered in essay form.

Resources

[Writing Center](#) - For help with writing your supplemental application responses.

Interview

[CASPer Test](#) - a 60-90 minute online situational judgment test

- MSU does require CASPer for this program

Personal Interviews are given to the only top applicants who meet the requirements. Medical schools have Traditional Interviews and Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI).

Traditional Interviews

The candidates are usually interviewed by one or more people.

The questions will be more about you as an individual, special life experiences, and what you learned from these life experiences. Students should review the application before the interview and research possible interview questions.

Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI)

The candidates go through 8 timed stations which consist of questions, role play and collaboration. The questions are meant to see how candidates handle different situations and work in teams. (MMI practice - [website](#)).

To prepare for this interview, the candidates should review current events and crisis management skills.

Resources

For additional help with interview practice, contact [Career and Life Design Center](#).
[Online Mock Interview Tool](#): “Big Interview”