

# D'YOUVILLE UNIVERSITY

**Policy Title:** Admission Policy

**Responsible Unit:** D'Youville University, DYU-COM Admissions

**Adoption Date:** April 17, 2023

**Last Review Date:** November 14, 2023

**Next Review Date:** April 17, 2027

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## **Application Submission Procedure**

Applicants to DYU-COM must submit a primary application through AACOMAS, the centralized online application service for U.S. osteopathic medical schools.

If your primary application meets the minimum application requirements for the D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine, the College of Osteopathic Medicine will invite you to submit a secondary application.

Those selected to complete a secondary application must pay a \$200, non-refundable fee.

Upon request, applicants who have received an AACOMAS fee waiver will be granted a waiver for the secondary application fee.

Applications are considered on a rolling basis and deadlines are subject to change. For the best chance of admission, please submit your materials as soon as possible.

## **Admission Requirements**

A prospective DYU-COM student must satisfy the following requirement to be considered for admission:

### **Citizenship:**

Be a U.S. Citizen or a U.S. Permanent Resident

### **MCAT Requirement:**

- The MCAT will be required for admission.
- MCAT should be greater than or equal to 501 (50<sup>th</sup> percentile). However, it is essential to understand D'Youville University proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine seeking accreditation will place a strong emphasis on the culture of

service to the community. The MCAT is just one aspect of the admissions process. GPA, letters of recommendation, personal statements and interviews all play a vital role in determining one's personal fitness for the osteopathic medical school.

- There is no minimum GPA. Applicants should note that with the intensity of medical education, a GPA of 3.2 and greater is highly preferred.

### **Letters of Recommendation:**

A Pre-health Committee Letter/Composite Letter (Preferred), or three individual letters to include:

Two individual faculty letters (at least one from science) from faculty who have taught you. In addition, one letter from a supervisor in long-term work, service, research, or clinical experience. If you are unable to provide a letter from a supervisor, you may provide an additional faculty letter.

In addition, we strongly recommend D.O./M.D. letters from non-family members.

### **Academic Pre-requisites:**

Have a baccalaureate degree from a college or university accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education. Candidates from an institution where a formal articulation agreement exists for a combined degree are an exception to this requirement.

Candidates applying to the DO program should have met the following pre-requisites in their undergraduate or post-baccalaureate studies. Please note the minimum grade for any course below is 'C' or better. Also, 'P' or 'S' grades given during the COVID Pandemic semesters are also acceptable if traditional grading procedures were not available from the institution.

- English: 6 semester hours only if your BS/BA was completed in a non-English speaking college or university
- Biology: including a basic course in general biology or zoology (lecture and lab): 4 semester hours
- General Chemistry: (lecture and lab): 8 semester hours
- Organic Chemistry I: (lecture and lab): 4 semester hours
- Organic Chemistry II: (lecture and lab): 4 semester hours
- Biochemistry, with or without lab, may be substituted for Organic Chemistry II
- Physics: At least 4 semester hours
- Mathematics and/or Computer Science: At least 3 semester hours
- Behavioral Sciences: At least 6 semester hours. Behavioral Sciences include psychology, sociology, and anthropology, amongst others

**Advanced Placement Examinations:**

- English Composition or English Literature exam or a 6 or 7 on the 1B Language A are acceptable substitutes
- Biology: A 4 or 5 on the AP Biology exam or a 6 or 7 on the 1B Biology are acceptable substitutes
- Inorganic Chemistry: A 4 or 5 on the AP Chemistry exam or 6 or 7 on the 1B Chemistry are acceptable substitutes
- Physics: A 4 or 5 on the AP Physics exam or a 6 or 7 on the 1B Physics are acceptable substitutes
- Mathematics and/or Computer Science: A 4 or 5 on the AP Pre-Calculus, Calculus AB or BC, or Statistics exams, or 6 or 7 on the 1B Mathematics are acceptable substitutes
- Behavioral Sciences: A 4 or 5 on the AP Psychology exam, a 6 or 7 on the 1B Psychology are acceptable substitutes

D'Youville University promotes service, compassion, and leadership in its mission statement. All D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine students are expected to participate in community service, understand the biopsychosocial context of osteopathic medicine, and understand the importance of leadership and the role of the physician in the community and as a team player.

Every applicant who seeks admission to D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine is expected to possess those intellectual, moral, social, ethical, physical, and psychological capabilities required to undertake the full curriculum and achieve the levels of competence required by the faculty of the College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Each student at the D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine must be an independent learner. Each student must demonstrate the ability to learn, integrate, analyze, synthesize, and retain information and data.

D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine shall follow the D'Youville University student handbook and will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodations for physically challenged students.

Osteopathic medical students are unique in their need to be able to utilize osteopathic manipulative medicine techniques described by Andrew Tylor Still D.O. and advanced through the history of osteopathic medicine. Dexterity is a necessary component of the osteopathic curriculum. D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine must maintain the integrity of the osteopathic curriculum and preserve those elements deemed essential to the acquisition of knowledge in all areas of osteopathic medicine, including the demonstration of basic skills requisite for the practice of osteopathic medicine.

If you will be requesting reasonable accommodations, please reach out to the D'Youville University Office of Student Disability Services.

### **Technical Ability:**

Accordingly, D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine requires each student to meet certain technical requirements, which include:

- Professionalism-Candidates and students must possess the skill, competence, or character expected of an osteopathic physician. Candidates and students must be able to tolerate physically and mentally taxing workloads, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in treating the problems of patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are qualities that will be assessed during the admissions and education process. Osteopathic medical students of D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine must demonstrate respect for individuals and groups with consideration to the diversity of race, color, ethnicity, sex, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, creed or religion. Certain personal characteristics are expected of a physician. These include integrity, compassion, interpersonal skills, and motivation.
- Observation-Candidates and students must have sufficient vision to be able to observe demonstrations, experiments, and laboratory exercises in the basic sciences. They must be able to observe a patient accurately at a distance and nearby.

It is essential to have adequate visual capabilities to assess structural asymmetries, range of motion, and tissue texture changes.

- Communication-Candidates and students must be able to speak, hear, and observe to elicit information, examine patients, describe changes in mood, activity, and posture, and to perceive non-verbal communication. Communication includes not only speech, but also reading and writing. They must also be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in oral and written form, with all members of the health care team.
- Motor Function-Candidates and students must have sufficient motor function to execute movements reasonably required to provide general care and emergency treatment to patients. Examples of emergency treatment reasonably required of physicians are: cardiopulmonary resuscitation; administration of intravenous medication; and the application of pressure to stop bleeding; the opening of obstructed airways; and the suturing of simple wounds. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional use of the senses of touch and vision.
- Sensory-Since osteopathic medical candidates and students need enhanced ability in their sensory skills, it will be necessary to evaluate for candidacy those individuals who are otherwise qualified, but who have significant tactile sensory or proprioceptive

disabilities. This includes, but is not limited to, individuals with previous burns, malformations of upper extremities, cicatrix formation and sensory motor or special sensory deficits.

- Strength and Mobility-Osteopathic manipulative medical treatment often requires considerable upper extremity and body strength. Therefore, individuals with significant limitations in these areas would be unlikely to succeed. Mobility to attend to emergencies, and to perform such maneuvers as CPR, is also required.
- Visual Integration-Consistent with ability to assess asymmetry, range of motion, and tissue color and texture changes. It is essential for the candidate to have adequate visual capabilities for the integration of evaluation and treatment of the patient.
- Intellectual, Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative Abilities-The candidate must be able to demonstrate ability in measurement, calculation, reasoning, comparison and contrast, analysis and synthesis, and problem solving. Candidates and students must demonstrate ability to comprehend three-dimensional relationships, and to understand the spatial relationships of structures.
- Behavioral and Social Abilities-Candidates and students must possess the emotional health required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients, and the development of mature, sensitive relationships with patients and co-workers. Candidates and students must be able to tolerate physically and mentally taxing workloads, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in treating the problems of patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are personal qualities that will be assessed during the admissions and education process.

Participation is required in all physical examination courses and laboratories, including but not limited to Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, Physical Diagnosis, Primary Care Skills, Objective Structured Clinical Examination, and Clinical Rotations.

Active participation in physical examination courses is an admission, matriculation, and graduation requirement. For example, during the first two years of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) training, each student will palpate, in the laboratory setting, a variety of people representing both genders and individuals with different body types to simulate the diversity of patients expected in a practice setting. Being palpated by other students and faculty helps the student appreciate how palpation feels from the patients' perspective and enables students to provide feedback to their laboratory partners, thus enhancing their palpatory skills. Reading and observation, although helpful, do not develop the skills required to perform palpatory diagnosis and/or manipulative treatment. Again, each student is required to actively participate in all skills development sessions of the physical examination courses, laboratories, and OMM. Occasionally, a student may have a physical problem, which may restrict or prevent

use of a specific type of manipulation in a specific anatomical location in the physical examination courses. A student who feels his/her manipulation might be so limited, is required to contact the head of the specific departments before the beginning of the course, and present documentation of the problem. The student is expected to actively participate in all laboratory sessions not directly affected by the problem.

All osteopathic medical students must be able to meet minimal technical and ability standards. Students must have the ability to see, hear, and touch independently. Student physicians must be able to assess the physical, mental, and emotional status of patients.

Where a physical deficiency occurs, it must be compensated with the aid of prosthetics or other means to the extent that the student is able to meet the minimum technical standards. Reasonable adaptations are those that will enable the osteopathic student to function independently, and when necessary, in a team-like fashion with other health professionals in an unimpaired manner.

#### **APPROPRIATE DRESS:**

The complete dress code is outlined in DYU-COM Student Handbook.

Dress code in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and Physical Diagnosis Laboratories:

It is imperative to the educational process that the specific body region being examined and/or treated will need to be exposed for observation, palpation and treatment. The dress requirement in clinical skills training sessions is designed to promote learning by providing optimal access to diagnostic observation and palpatory experience to the specific region of the body being examined. Wearing inappropriate clothing interferes with a partner's experience of diagnosis and treatment.

Appropriate attire must be clean and includes:

- Shorts which are several inches above the knee - (no jean shorts, cut-offs, cargo, thick-seamed shorts, spandex, or knee length shorts).
- T-shirts - all genders will be asked to remove t-shirts while acting as patients. Those wearing undergarments must wear sports bras or bathing suit tops that expose the spine and ribs.
- When in the role of the patient, each student is expected to remove her/his shoes (no shoes are permitted on the tables).
- Hats or head coverings (other than for religious purposes) are not permitted in lab.
- Religious head coverings must be modified when necessary to allow palpation when they would obscure the immediate area to be examined or treated (e.g., head, neck,

upper back). Modifications can include: adjustment of the covering permitting unobstructed palpation beneath the covering; or substitution of a thinner material that allows for adequate evaluation and treatment.

Students may wear scrubs (or other apparel approved by the course director) over the laboratory attire when not in the role of the patient. Students serving as patients may wear cover-ups for areas of the body not being examined (however, students must be prepared to reveal other parts of the anatomy as specific lessons unfold and trace the interconnectivity of the human body).

Each student must be appropriately attired and prepared before class begins. Failure to be appropriately attired for class impedes the educational process and will not be tolerated.

D'Youville University, is founded on support of and sensitivity to religious observance. DYU-COM will ensure that reasonable accommodation of religious sensitivities is provided to the extent that it does not impact negatively on the delivery and execution of the curriculum and its learning objectives. Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) and Physical Diagnosis labs are critical to the Osteopathic Medical curriculum and each student must participate fully. D'Youville University, when necessary, reserves the right to determine the extent, frequency and academic impact of accommodations offered on a case-by-case basis.

However, notwithstanding the accommodations provided by D'Youville University and the College of Osteopathic Medicine, all osteopathic medical students must pass COMLEX USA Level 1 and COMLEX USA Level 2, within six years of matriculation at the D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

COMLEX USA Level 1 and COMLEX USA Level 2 are administered through the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME). NBOME has its own requirements and standards. The accommodations, if any, a student receives at D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine may not be available or offered by NBOME, please contact the NBOME for individual concerns.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and other applicable laws, the D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine shall provide reasonable accommodations for otherwise qualified students with verified physical, psychological and/or learning disabilities. An accommodation will not be provided if it would result in the fundamental alteration of the college's programs, services, or activities, or if it would impose undue financial or administrative burdens on the college.

The intent of this policy is to provide each student with the opportunity to excel academically, while creating an equitable environment conducive to learning. In doing so, however, the

D'Youville University College of Osteopathic Medicine shall maintain the integrity of its curriculum and preserve those elements deemed essential to the acquisition of knowledge in all areas of osteopathic medicine, including osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM). For example, technology-related accommodations may be made for disabled students in some of these areas, but a candidate must be able to perform in a reasonably independent manner.

The full policy and procedures for students with disabilities is contained in DYU-COM Student Handbook.

Osteopathic medical students seeking accommodations must confirm eligibility to participate in the board examination directly with the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME). Students are cautioned to address these concerns with the NBOME to avoid not being eligible to participate in board examinations.

D'Youville University will also take affirmative action to ensure that qualified women, minorities, veterans, and persons with disabilities are provided full access opportunities. This includes administrators, faculty, staff, students, contractors, and vendors.

Inquiries and concerns may be referred to the University's Title IX coordinator, located in the Koessler Administration Building, by submitting a report through Maxient, the University's official reporting software, by calling 716-829-7812, or through email at [nesselbd@dyc.edu](mailto:nesselbd@dyc.edu); or by visiting the [U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights website](#) or calling 800-872-5327.

A student also has the right to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) of the U.S. Department of Education. Complaints are to be filed within 180 calendar days of the alleged act of discrimination and may be made to the regional office of OCR:

New York Office for Civil Rights  
U.S. Department of Education 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor  
New York, NY 10005

Telephone: 646.428.3900

FAX: 646.428.3843

TDD: 877.521.2172

Email: [OCR.NewYork@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.NewYork@ed.gov)