The college was founded in 1972 in response to a physician shortage in the small towns and rural areas of Oklahoma. The college opened its doors in 1974 and graduated its first class in 1977. In 1988, the college was merged with Oklahoma State University and confirmed its mission to prepare students to be primary care physicians with emphasis in rural medicine. In 2001, the Oklahoma legislature added another designation by creating the OSU Center for Health Sciences—the umbrella organization for the College of Osteopathic Medicine; and graduate programs in biomedical and forensic sciences, health care administration and athletic training.

The OSU Center for Health Sciences is located on 16 acres along the west bank of the Arkansas River with an impressive view of downtown Tulsa. Modern buildings house conference facilities, a hospital simulation center, expanded classroom space, a medical bookstore and a forensic sciences and biomedical research facility. The OSU Medical Center, located a half-mile north of campus, is the primary teaching hospital for the college. The medical center serves Tulsa and the surrounding communities, and serves as both a teaching clinic for medical students, interns and residents, and a health care resource for residents of Tulsa and the surrounding area. The medical center is a state entity operated by the Oklahoma State University Medical Authority, with management by Saint Francis Health System. The hospital provides comprehensive and specialized health care and is staffed by licensed physicians and other health care professionals who supervise students in the care of patients. The OSU combined clinic system covers a wide variety of specialties. The clinics provide essential health care to the community.

The new OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation is an additional teaching site located in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. The Tahlequah site has a projected enrollment for the inaugural class of 50 students starting in the fall of 2020. The new 84,000-square-foot facility will include an anatomy laboratory, clinical skills and OMM labs, standardized patient labs and a simulation center that will feature state-of-the-art computer programmable manikins. There will also be lecture halls, classrooms, faculty offices as well as study carrels.

Promoting a patient-centered approach to health care, osteopathic physicians are concerned with the entire patient and traditionally have excelled in general and family health care. The doctor of osteopathic medicine is a fully-trained and licensed physician who selectively utilizes all accepted scientific modalities to maintain and restore health. Osteopathic physicians and surgeons are licensed in every state to practice all phases of medicine, and offer their patients the added dimension of health care through osteopathic manipulation, a hands-on technique that uses palpation and manipulative procedures of the musculoskeletal system to diagnose and treat illness.

**Minimum Admission Requirements**

Prior to matriculation, the applicant must have an overall grade-point average of at least 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale), a pre-professional science GPA of at least 2.75, and a minimum score of 492 on the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT). All applicants must take the MCAT within three years prior to matriculation. The last MCAT test date accepted for each application cycle is January of the year of matriculation. Under special circumstances, the College may use discretion to admit students who do not meet these minimum requirements.

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At the time of entry, the applicant must have completed:
The curriculum at the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine places significant focus on primary care. The four-year program emphasizes the integration of biomedical sciences with clinical systems. The curriculum includes early hands-on clinical experiences with patients, patient models, and simulations. Instructional methods are student-centered and include traditional lecture, and small group and team-based learning. Problem-solving and information retrieval skills are emphasized to produce and develop skills that support lifelong learning.

The culture of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine encourages students to establish an academic relationship with faculty members and community-based physicians. The curriculum emphasizes integration of biomedical with clinical and behavioral sciences to permit the full comprehension of the clinician's work and promote a holistic approach to the care of patients and their families. Students receive training in all areas of medicine, with additional emphasis on osteopathic manipulative medicine.

Incorporated within the OSU-COM curriculum is a Rural Medical Track (RMT) that stresses the unique nature and characteristics of a rural practice, provides a pathway for student matriculation into a rural primary care residency, and supports residency graduates in the establishment of a practice in a rural or underserved Oklahoma location.

The first semester focuses on the foundations of biomedical and clinical sciences along with an introduction to patient care. Starting in the second semester and continuing through the end of the second year, students are introduced to a total of 11 clinical systems that systematically prepare students for addressing conditions typically seen in the primary care environment. The third and fourth years are comprised of clinical rotations, which are community-based, consisting of clerkship experiences in hospitals and clinics where students observe patient care and participate in the evaluation and treatment of patients under physician faculty supervision.

In the Clerkship Program, students are required to complete 22, four-week rotations in the core areas of family medicine, osteopathic manipulative medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics-gynecology, psychiatry and emergency medicine. In addition to the core rotations, students are also required to complete three rotations at affiliated teaching sites in rural communities, two of which are focused on gaining experience in a rural hospital setting. Students must also complete two primary care electives, seven general electives and one required vacation. Many rotations are completed at the OSU Medical Center in Tulsa, one of the largest osteopathic hospitals in the United States.

Furthermore, students enrolled in the Rural Medical Track Program take our mission to serve rural Oklahoma to new heights. The Rural Medical Track Program is designed to allow students to complete, whenever possible, the core rotations in rural communities. In addition to the core rotations, the Rural Medical Track students must also complete at least two sub-internships with rural residency programs, as well as two sub-specialty electives.

Students graduate from the four-year program with the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree. Although more than half of graduates enter primary care, graduates are prepared to enter residencies in all medical specialty fields. This training period lasts a minimum of three years with several specialties requiring up to five years of postgraduate education. To see a full list of residency programs our recent graduates have entered and residency acceptance data, along with OSU-COM’s pass rate on the COMLEX-USA, please visit: https://medicine.okstate.edu/com/admissions/graduates.html.

The annual ACOMAS application deadline is February 28. The deadline for supplemental application materials is March 30.

An on-campus interview with the Applicant Interview Committee is by invitation only. Interviews are conducted by clinical and basic science faculty members, as well as alumni. Applicants must participate in the interview to qualify for further consideration. Interview results and other data submitted will be considered when determining which applicants have demonstrated appropriate levels of scholarship, aptitude and motivation for admission to the program. Class size is limited to 165 students (in 2019).

### Selection Factors

The College considers applications for admission from all qualified candidates. The Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences provides equal employment and/or educational opportunity on the basis of merit and without discrimination because of age, race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin, disability, protected veteran status, or other protected status in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. Preference is given to Oklahoma residents. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. Non-U.S. citizens must have a permanent resident visa ("green card") at the time of application in order to be considered for admission.

### College Curriculum

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Financial Aid

Financing a medical education should be seriously considered. The primary responsibility for meeting your educational costs rests with the student and his or her family; however, the Office of Student Financial Aid makes every attempt to assist him or her financially.

The Office of Student Financial Aid supports the mission of the University by enabling students and families to reduce or eliminate financial barriers that might prohibit their participation in the programs offered by OSU Center for Health Sciences. The office administers need-based financial aid programs funded by federal, state, University and private sources in the form of Federal Stafford loan (Unsubsidized), Graduate PLUS loan, employment, as well as need- and merit-based scholarships. The office also administers the Federal non-need based loan programs (Unsubsidized) and provides information and support to students interested in the alternative loan options available to them.

Tuition and fees at the College of Osteopathic Medicine (for the 2019-2020 school year) totals $28,883.821 per year for Oklahoma residents and $56,385.781 per year for out-of-state residents. Fees vary by year for medical students and average $3,000.

Most financial aid is renewable on an annual basis, provided there is adequate funding and the student remains eligible (enrolled in a matriculated program, in good academic standing and with continued need for need-based aid). To qualify, each student should file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by Feb. 15. Students are encouraged to continue to file after this date; however, consideration for funds will be given on a first-come basis.

The FAFSA and other required applications may be obtained by contacting:

Office of Financial Aid - OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine
1111 West 17th Street
Tulsa, OK 74107-1898;

Students may apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov/ (http://www.fafsa.gov/) (School code is G11282).

1 subject to change

Graduate Education

The Center for Health Sciences offers graduate degree programs in Biomedical Sciences, Forensic Sciences, Health Care Administration and Athletic Training.

The Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program offers PhD, MS, DO/MS and DO/PhD degree programs. These programs provide students with a foundation in biomedical sciences that is broadly applicable to many disciplines, including anatomy, biochemistry, cell biology, microbiology, pathology, pharmacology and physiology.

The Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences offers a thesis and non-thesis option, with both programs designed to be completed in two years with a minimum of 30 credit hours (thesis) and 32 credit hours (non-thesis). The PhD program is designed to be completed in four years with a minimum of 60 credit hours. The DO/PhD program is designed to be completed in a minimum of seven years. The first two years are the basic science years of the program. The middle three years are graduate study, research and dissertation of the PhD program. The final two years are the clinical sciences years of the DO program. The DO/MS program is designed to be completed in a minimum of five years. The first year is primarily the graduate portion of the program. The last four years consist of the medical portion of the degree, with any remaining graduate work completed during the first year of medical school and subsequent summers.

The Master of Science in Forensic Sciences requires a minimum of 39 credit hours, with both thesis and non-thesis pathways. For full-time students, thesis tracks are typically completed in two or two and a half years. Thesis tracks offer specialization in the areas of Forensic Biology/DNA, Forensic Chemistry/Toxicology, and Forensic Psychology. Full-time thesis students may complete first-year classes online before moving to campus, with permission of the specialization track lead. Non-thesis tracks have specialization in Arson, Explosives, Firearms and Toolmarks Investigations, Forensic Investigative Sciences, and Forensic Science Administration. Non-thesis tracks are either entry level (FIS) or designed for practitioners with related professional experience (AEFTI and FSA). They allow students to complete the degree online, usually over three to four years while maintaining full-time careers. The Master of Science in Forensic Sciences degree is designed for individuals pursuing many professional avenues, including careers in federal agencies, crime labs, investigative agencies, or research institutions.

The Master of Science in Health Care Administration requires a minimum of 36 hours of graduate course work, including six hours of credit in the health care field. The program is designed to be taken concurrently with other degree programs. Most of the required courses are offered in the evening or online. The program may take up to two and a half years to complete.

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The on-campus Physician Assistant Studies* (Developing Program) recruits, educates and mentors a diverse group of students to increase competent and compassionate health care with an emphasis on increasing access to healthcare in rural and medically underserved Oklahoma. The Program places an importance on fostering collegial relationships among students within the Physician Assistant, Osteopathic Medicine and Athletic Training disciplines to provide professional, flexible, team-based, health care.

The Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies is designed for students to be eligible for certification as a Physician Assistant. The PA program has a directed curriculum of 124 hours. All students are required to be enrolled full-time. Students will spend 13 months in the didactic phase of education where they will receive traditional lectures as well as many hands-on experiences in laboratory and simulation settings. The second phase of training includes 15 months of clinical rotations. Students are required to have experiences in family medicine, internal medicine, emergency medicine, OB/GYN, pediatrics, psychiatry, and surgery. Students will also have a minimum of two (2) rotations in a rural location. For additional information regarding admissions requirements please visit https://medicine.okstate.edu/pa/prospective-students.html.

*Oklahoma State University has applied for Accreditation – Provisional from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). Oklahoma State University anticipates matriculating its first class in July 2021, pending achieving Accreditation – Provisional status at the March 2021 ARC-PA meeting. Accreditation – Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program’s ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when the program holding accreditation-provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students.

**Honor and Service Organizations**

The College emphasizes community service, and many students volunteer their time in giving school and athletic physicals, visiting nursing homes, working with school children and working at College-sponsored health fairs or the annual Osteopathic Scrub Run. Listed below are official student organizations.

- American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians (ACOEP)
- American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP)
- American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians (ACOP)
- American Medical Student Association (AMSA)
- American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA)
- American Osteopathic College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Anesthesiology Student Interest Group (ASIG)
- Association of Military Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (AMOPS)
- Association of Native American Medical Students (ANAMS)
- Atlas Fraternity—social
- Biomedical Science Graduate Student Association (BSGSA)
- Business & Leadership in Medical Practice (BLiMP)
- Christian Medical Association (CMA)
- Club S.P.I.N.E.—fundraising for Eugene Field Elementary
- Dermatology Interest Group (DIGA)
- Forensic Science Organization (FSD)
- Gay & Lesbian Advocacy in Medicine (GLAM)
- Global Medicine Club (GMC)
- Medical Interdisciplinary Specialty Club (MISC)
- Oklahoma Osteopathic Obstetrics and Gynecology Student Association (OOOGSA)
- Sigma Sigma Phi (SSP)—honor society
- Student American Academy of Osteopathy (SAAO)
- Student American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics (SAOAO)
- Student Government Association (SGA)
- Student Interest Group in Neurology (SIGN)
- Student National Medical Association (SNMA)
- Student Osteopathic Association for Sports Medicine (SOASM)
- Student Osteopathic Association of Radiology (SOAR)
- Student Osteopathic Internal Medicine Association (SOIMA)
- Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA)
- Student Osteopathic Psychiatry Association (SOPA)
- Student Osteopathic Research Association (SORA)
- Student Osteopathic Rural Medicine Club (STORM)
- Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA)
- Student Political Action Committee
- Wilderness Medical Society (WMS)