



Western
University
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

*College of Osteopathic
Medicine of the Pacific*

**Interview Day Guidebook
DO2028**

Prepared by
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Message from the Dean **David Connett, DO, FACOFP, *dist.***

On behalf of our faculty, staff, and administration, we welcome you to the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific. This is an exciting time to become a physician. The rapid state of global change and medical innovation is transforming the way we prepare our students to become physicians of the future.

We, at the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (COMP) and COMP-Northwest, remain committed to ushering in a new generation of osteopathic physicians who serve their patients with purpose, passion, and proficiency. The faculty and staff at both campuses inspire a shared vision of a student-centered, inter-professional approach to learning with a meaningful emphasis on humanistic health care. We strive to model the way forward for our students and alumni by being leaders in our profession, our communities, and in the realm of academia.

Today's advanced technology and the ever-growing body of medical knowledge continue to move COMP and COMP-Northwest into a new era of medicine. A vigorous desire to heal, combined with their strong medical education, makes our students stand apart from the rest. We are excited you are here and look forward to learning more about you and your passion for medicine.



WESTERN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to produce, in a humanistic tradition, health care professionals, and biomedical knowledge that will enhance and extend the quality of life in our communities.

Vision

*Western University of Health Sciences is Transforming the Face of Health. We **envision** healthy people and a healthy society.*

Guiding Values

Our guiding values include:

- Embodying humanism through caring, respect, empathy, and trust.
- Creating a pioneering culture of bold innovation, courage, and passion.
- Displaying a collaborative mindset in how we operate, how we educate, and how we deliver health care.
- Achieving excellence in all that we do.

University Outcome Domains

The University has adopted a set of eight outcome domains that serve to guide its academic programs in their development and ongoing quality improvement. Within each outcome domain, each academic program has developed specific ability-based outcomes appropriate to the particular degree program.

The eight domains are as follows:

- Critical Thinking
- Breadth and Depth of Knowledge in the Discipline/Clinical Competence
- Interpersonal Communication Skills
- Collaboration Skills
- Ethical and Moral Decision-Making Skills
- Life-long Learning Skills
- Evidence-based Practice
- Humanistic Practice

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE OF THE PACIFIC MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the College (COMP and COMP-Northwest): is to prepare students to become technically competent, culturally sensitive, professional, and compassionate physicians who are prepared for graduate medical education, who are lifelong learners, and who will serve society by providing comprehensive, patient centered healthcare with the distinctive osteopathic philosophy. This is accomplished through excellence in curriculum, translational research, service, osteopathic clinical practice, and the enhancement of osteopathic graduate medical education.

Core Competencies in Support of the College's Mission Statement

- Medical Knowledge
- Osteopathic Philosophy
- Patient Centered Care
- Professionalism (Leadership)
- Interpersonal & Communication Skills
- Practice Based Learning & Improvement
- Systems Based Practice

The **mission and core competencies** serve as the curricular foundation for the College. Core competencies, also called Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs), support the achievement of Western University of Health Sciences' **Institutional Learning Outcomes** (Student Learning Outcome Domains).

OVERVIEW OF WESTERNU FINANCIAL AID PROCESSES

Welcome! The information below is to provide you with a quick overview on how financial aid is processed at our office. Please visit our website at <https://www.westernu.edu/financial/>, which has a lot of useful information.

If you have any questions or feedback, please contact our office at (909) 469-5353 or via email at finaid@westernu.edu. We look forward to assisting you!

Applying for Aid

THE PROCESS

Step 1: Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will not be available until sometime in December for the 2024-2025 academic year due to the Department of Education updates to the FAFSA.

- Create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID
- This FSA ID is used to sign your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online. If you have an existing FSA ID, you are not required to create another one.
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) -<https://studentaid.gov/>
- Western University of Health Sciences (WesternU) school code is 024827
- When completing the FAFSA application, transfer your federal tax information from two years ago (Prior-Prior Year).

Step 2: Review Student Budget/Cost of Attendance

- Student Budgets/Cost of Attendance are subject to change and costs vary each academic year.
- See below for details

Step 3: Requirements

- In early spring the Financial Aid Office will email your WesternU email account. This email will instruct you to login to your Student Portal to complete the listed requirements prior to disbursement of loan funds. Once requirements are completed, your financial College Finance Plan will be emailed to your WesternU email account. Awards typically are awarded by the beginning of June.

Step 4: Financial Aid Offer

Packaging and Award Policy

- Students at WesternU are packaged and awarded as independent graduate students. There are no Grants available to graduate students. Resources such as gift aid, scholarships, Military and the National Health Service Corps will be taken into consideration first when packaging and awarding students.
- All eligible students are awarded the unsubsidized loan based on the length of your academic year <https://www.westernu.edu/financial/loan-counseling/financial-loans-department-education/> and the balance in the Grad PLUS loan to meet the maximum budget.
- Outside scholarships are available! Please visit <https://www.westernu.edu/financial/financial-scholarships/> for more details.

Loans

- Graduate professional students are eligible to borrow federal loans up to the cost of attendance minus other financial aid from the [Department of Education \(ED\)](#) and/or non-Department of Education lenders referred to as an Alternative loan.
- **ED Loans and Interest Rates are as follows:**
- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan
- 7.05% (T-bill + 3.60%)
- Federal Graduate PLUS Loan
- 8.05% (T-bill + 4.60%)
- The Federal Graduate PLUS loan requires a credit check. If loan is declined, student will need an Endorser.
- Please remember that the interest rates for each academic year may vary based on what the 10-Year T-Bill will be by the end of May of each year. **In addition, there is an origination fee, which is assessed at the time of disbursement. For additional information visit our website <https://www.westernu.edu/financial/direct-loan-program-counseling/>** Repayment begins 6 months after the student graduates or drops below half time enrollment. Limited deferments and forbearances are available to students upon graduation based on economic hardship.

Alternative Loan

- Eligible students are International, DACA, and those eligible to borrow ED loans.
- International and DACA students must secure a U.S. Citizen co-signer to obtain funding.
- Requires a credit check and is based on credit worthiness. Unlike ED's Loan program, approval is not guaranteed. The lending institutions determine interest rates of which there is no cap. Some lenders may charge an origination fee. Alternative loans may not have deferment/forbearance as an option.

Step 5: [Disbursements Schedule](#)

- Disbursement schedules are based on the student's program enrollment terms (fall and spring or fall, spring, and summer terms).
- The financial aid amount you've accepted will be disbursed to your Student Account. Loan funds will first be used to pay for [tuition and fees](#) and then the remainder of it will be deposited to your checking account.
- To view your disbursement schedule, please Login to your Student Portal.

Step 6: [Meet with a Financial Aid Counselor](#)

- Students who are borrowing ED loans for the first time at Western University of Health Sciences will receive an email with instructions to schedule their 30-45-minute mandatory New Student Information (NSI) Financial Aid group meeting.

Student Budgets

- Information is updated annually at the end of May.
- Please visit <https://www.westernu.edu/financial/financial-budgets/> for details.

Note: Financial Aid student budgets are subject to change.

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine/Pomona Campus

Tuition & Fees	First Year 10 Months	Second Year 12 Months	Third Year 12 Months	Fourth Year 11 Months	*SAC/DO 12 Months
Tuition	65,500	65,500	65,500	65,500	65,500
Student Body Fees	40	40	20	20	40
Graduation Fees	N/A	N/A	N/A	350	N/A
Top Hat	27	27	N/A	N/A	27
iPad	930	N/A	N/A	N/A	930
SEP/Medical Equipment (cost is subject to change)	1,066	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,066
Budget Items / Estimated Costs	First Year 10 Months	Second Year 12 Months	Third Year 12 Months	Fourth Year 11 Months	*SAC/DO 12 Months
Books & Supplies	1,145	0	0	0	1,145
Living Expenses (room + board)	18,720	22,653	22,563	20,502	22,653
Misc. Personal Expenses	4,726	7,669	7,669	4,867	7,669
Transportation	3,521	3,977	9,566	9,095	4,166
COMLEX Level I	N/A	715	N/A	N/A	N/A
COMLEX Level II	N/A	N/A	715	N/A	N/A
ISSM 3 and ISSM 4 software (2nd yr only)	N/A	1,100	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drug Screening	N/A	175	N/A	N/A	N/A
Background check	N/A	50	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drug Screening + Background Check	175	N/A	N/A	N/A	100
Loan Fees	First Year 10 Months	Second Year 12 Months	Third Year 12 Months	Fourth Year 11 Months	*SAC/DO 12 Months
Direct Unsubsidized Loan Fees	452	499	499	475	499
Grad PLUS Loan Fees	2,329	2319	2,096	2,669	2,360
Total Estimated Budget	100,191	104,536	108,096	105,528	105,868



WELCOME FROM THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dear Prospective Student:

Thank you for your interest in the osteopathic medicine program at Western University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific!

We are very excited that you are considering WesternU/COMP for your future training as an osteopathic physician. Our curriculum will stimulate and intellectually challenge you with a program that is scientifically rigorous, clinically relevant, and patient centered. Additionally, we have ensured that our program honors the significance of the “humanistic” elements of medicine such as interpersonal relationships, literature, art, altruism, interprofessional collaboration, and community service.

We fully recognize that the best physicians are the ones who are able to integrate both the sciences and the humanities into their interactions with patients and the medical community. Please review the information in the pages that follow for more specifics regarding WesternU/COMP’s educational program.

If you have any questions concerning WesternU/COMP’s educational program, please don’t hesitate to contact us. If you send an email, please include your phone number.

Good luck!

Sincerely,

Gerald Thrush, PhD, Vice Dean Academic Affairs

gthrush@westernu.edu

Jesus Sanchez, DO Assistant Dean Pre-Clinical Education

jsanchez@westernu.edu

Colleen Talbot, PhD, Assistant Dean, Pre-Clinical
Education ctalbot@westernu.edu

Stephanie White, DO, Associate Dean, Clinical Education
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Derrick Sorweide, DO, Assistant Dean, Clinical Education
dsorweide@westernu.edu

Curriculum Overview

COMP's curriculum is a four-year, full-time academic and clinical program leading to the ***Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)*** degree. This curriculum stresses the interdependence of the biological, clinical, behavioral, and social sciences with an emphasis on preparing students for residency training and future clinical practice as part of an interprofessional health care team.

In order to fulfill its educational mission, COMP identifies and develops the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors required to become physicians who are competent, compassionate, life-long learners with the distinctive osteopathic philosophy. This is accomplished through a variety of modalities including small and large group interactions, hands-on and online laboratory sessions, clinical skills sessions, classroom presentations, and a breadth of experience in patient care and healthcare through excellent clinical rotations. All these sessions are designed to support the professional development of students so that they can be successful in their future role within the medical profession.

COMP aspires to promote a patient and profession-based curriculum that is responsive to the ever-changing needs of the healthcare environment. Therefore, COMP faculty members are actively involved in a process of continuous quality improvement, which includes a systematic review and evaluation of each course. Improvements and innovations are implemented on an as needed ongoing basis to assure that COMP's curriculum provides an excellent educational program for osteopathic medical students.

All COMP students are required to take and pass the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX-USA) Levels 1, 2CE, and 2PE before graduation. Additionally, during residency training, all DO graduates are expected to take and pass the COMLEX-USA Level 3 Exam for state licensure. Our COMLEX- USA first time pass rates and postgraduate residency placement rates can be found in the COMP Academic Outcomes section of our main webpage: https://www.westernu.edu/ire/outcomes/outcomes_om/

Please see COMP's catalog for more details regarding the College's curriculum and educational programs: <https://www.westernu.edu/registrar/registrar-about/university-catalog/>

ISAC INTENSIVE SUMMER ANATOMY COURSE

The purpose of ISAC is to prepare a small group of first-year students to assist the anatomy faculty during anatomy labs throughout the regular academic year. ISAC students get a head start on their medical gross anatomy curriculum by completing all of the dissections, from head to toe, during the summer. ISAC has the advantage of smaller class size and greater interaction time with faculty in the lab than during the regular academic year. ISAC students who perform well and who demonstrate qualities that will make them good teachers are expected to become Anatomy Teaching Assistants if selected by the faculty. Teaching Assistantships are paid positions. ISAC does not entail additional fees.

The Scope of ISAC

ISAC satisfies your anatomy lab component. If you pass all of the ISAC practical exams, you will not need to take the anatomy lab practical exams during the regular academic year. This is one of the main advantages of ISAC for students—more time to study other subjects during the fall and spring. ISAC students are still responsible for the anatomy lecture material and taking the didactic (multiple-choice) exams and quizzes in the fall and spring courses. ISAC has lectures to support the labs, but it does not have didactic exams—only lab practical exams. When the regular academic year begins, ISAC students attend lectures and take didactic exams and quizzes along with their peers.

Selection of TAs and TA responsibilities

All ISAC students, who successfully complete ISAC, are candidates for a Teaching Assistantship. The ISAC faculty will select the final list of Teaching Assistants based on each candidate's knowledge base, ability to communicate, professionalism, commitment to and enthusiasm for mastering anatomy, and interactions with classmates. Anatomy TAs perform two tasks. First, they assist faculty during scheduled labs, helping to guide their peers through dissections. Second, before each anatomy practical exam, TAs set up a mock practical exam to help students prepare for the real thing. These responsibilities amount to approximately 65–75 hours of lab time spread across nine months. It's a great way to deepen your understanding of anatomy—the best way to master anatomy is to teach it.

If you have questions about ISAC on the Pomona campus, please contact

Pomona Campus
Dr. Jeremiah Scott at

jscott@westernu.edu.

Lebanon Campus
Dr. Edie Sperling

esperling@westernu.edu

SUMMER PREPAREDNESS AND READINESS COURSE (SPaRC)

Dates: June – July 2024

The Summer Preparedness and Readiness Course (SPaRC) is a three-week program designed to prepare incoming students for the rigors of their chosen program. SPaRC provides students with an introduction to applicable courses, skills, and competencies in an interprofessional education healthcare setting while easing their transition to a professional graduate program. SPaRC also helps students evaluate their strengths and weaknesses in the areas of academics and inter and intra-personal development. Before the school year begins, SPaRC participants have been introduced to deans and faculty, know how to access crucial resources on campus, have experienced and dealt with information overload, and best of all have already connected with fellow students in and outside of their programs.

Upon completing SPaRC, students:

- Realistically understand the academic demands of their program
- Are able to utilize academic-based learning and wellbeing coping strategies
- Have been introduced to their college dean and faculty
- Know how to access crucial resources on campus
- Have developed supportive friendships with students in and outside of their program

Content Includes:

Sciences:

- Skeletal system
- Gross anatomy
- OMM
- Pharmacology

WesternU specific aspects:

- Service learning
- Study skills
- Test taking skills
- Life balance

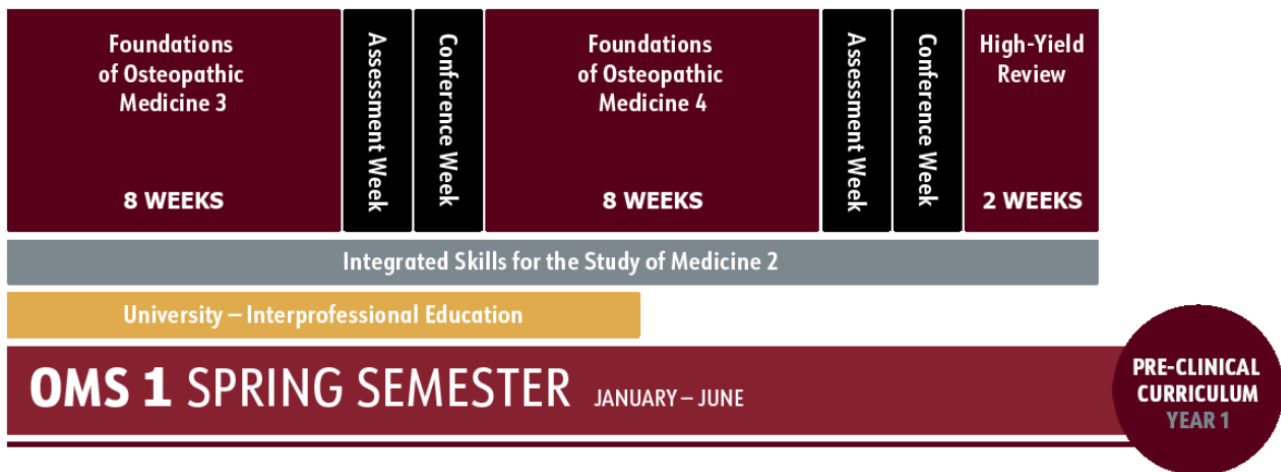
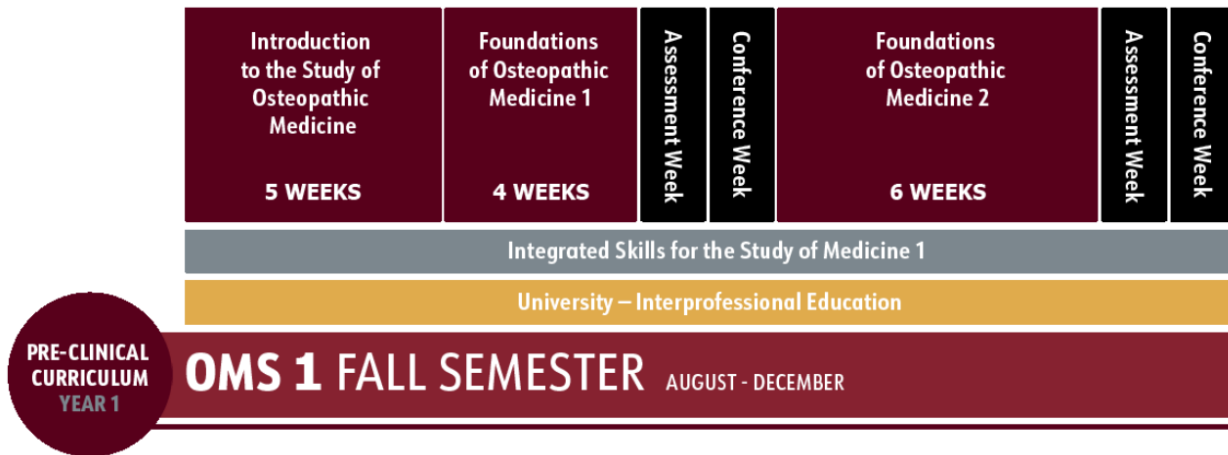
How to Apply

Incoming WesternU students, find out how to sign up here:

<http://www.westernu.edu/lead/lead-summer-prep/>

*For further information about SPaRC, please contact
[Neil Patel, PhD, Director, LEAD](#)*

FIRST YEAR FALL AND SPRING SEMESTER CURRICULUM OUTLINE



SECOND YEAR FALL AND SPRING SEMESTER CURRICULUM OUTLINE

Advanced Study of Osteopathic Medicine 3 WEEKS	Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine 5 8 WEEKS	Assessment Week	Conference Week	Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine 6 4 WEEKS	Assessment Week	Conference Week
Integrated Skills for the Study of Medicine 3						
University – Interprofessional Education						
<div>PRE-CLINICAL CURRICULUM YEAR 2</div> <div>OMS 2 FALL SEMESTER AUGUST - DECEMBER</div>						

Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine 7 6 WEEKS	Assessment Week	Conference Week	Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine 8 5 WEEKS	Assessment Week	Conference Week	High-Yield Review 2 WEEKS	Dedicated Board Study 4 WEEKS
Integrated Skills for the Study of Medicine 4							
University – Interprofessional Education							
<div>PRE-CLINICAL CURRICULUM YEAR 2</div> <div>OMS 2 SPRING SEMESTER JANUARY – JUNE</div>							

COMP Clinical Curriculum Outline

OMS--III Clinical Education Requirements (The sequence of rotations & blocks is based on the selection of the student during the rotations lottery)			
Quantity	Type	Discipline	Duration
1	Core	Family Medicine	4 weeks
1	Core	Surgery	4 weeks
2	Core	Internal Medicine—General (IM-1 and IM-2)	2 x 4 weeks
1	Core	Psychiatry	4 weeks
1	Core	OB/GYN	4 weeks
1	Core	Pediatrics	4 weeks
1	Core	OMM	4 weeks
3	Elective	Elective	3 x 4 weeks

Note: Course title, topics, and sequence subject to change

OMS-IV Clinical Education Requirements			
Quantity	Type	Discipline	Duration
1	Required	Emergency Medicine	4 weeks
1	Required	Sub-Internship	4 weeks
1	Required	Residency Based Selective	4 weeks
6	Elective	Elective	6 x 4 weeks
1	N/A	Vacation	8 weeks

COMP Clinical Rotation Sites

Most 3rd year rotations are located within driving distance of WesternU and will expose you to a wide range of practice options. It is our philosophy to give students a variety of experiences that include community-based hospitals, county- based hospitals, and private practice offices. Additionally, we offer rotation sites with and without residency programs, and inpatient components, so that students can experience the broad spectrum of medical practice.

In addition, students may apply to remain at a single hospital system for the entirety of their 3rd year. The “longitudinal sites” are currently located in Bakersfield, Palm Springs, and Ventura.

When students transition to their 4th year, they are given both increased autonomy and accountability to rotate at sites across the US and even internationally. This enables maximum “audition” opportunities when applying to residency.

INTERPROFESSIONAL PRACTICE & EDUCATION



What is Interprofessional Education at WesternU?

Collaboration and teamwork among healthcare professionals are important aspects to the delivery of high-quality patient care. A landmark report by the Institute of Medicine suggests healthcare workforce preparation should include IPE.

“Interprofessional education occurs when students from two or more professions learn about, from and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes. Interprofessional education is a necessary step in preparing a 'collaborative practice-ready' health workforce that is better prepared to respond to local health needs.” Source: World Health Organization (2010): Framework for Action on Interprofessional Education & Collaborative Practice

WesternU's IPE curriculum places students from multiple health science disciplines together in lecture hall and small group venues. The goal is for WesternU graduates to demonstrate an understanding of other healthcare professions and to provide and promote a team approach to patient care and healthcare management, ultimately leading to improved patient care.

This collaboration of professions directly reflects the "one health, one medicine, one vision" idea, employing a curriculum designed to do no less than revolutionize medical education in this country - breaking down the silos that characterize so many healthcare professions campuses today. Improved service to patients and enhanced student training were primary reasons for establishing WesternU's IPE curriculum.

As national healthcare organizations and employers emphasize the importance of a team-based approach to healthcare, training as part of an interprofessional team becomes essential to healthcare professions graduates. As ambassadors for WesternU's broad interprofessional approach to health-sciences education, our graduates will simultaneously cement WesternU's reputation as a leader in graduate health-sciences education and raise the bar for patient care throughout the United States.

WesternU is a major institution to develop a comprehensive program helping students from many health professions learn how to work as a cohesive health care team. Why are we doing this? Because:

- As national healthcare organizations and employers emphasize the importance of a team-based approach to healthcare, it is likely that training as part of an interprofessional health care team will enhance graduates' resumes and increase their employment opportunities.
- Graduates will be more prepared to work in patient-centered team-based care at the onset of their careers reinforcing their effectiveness and improving patient outcomes.
- As populations grow larger and older, provider shortages are increasing. Thus, coordinated care is even more essential and valued.
- Patients will receive timely care from the most appropriate healthcare providers—minimizing cost and maximizing patients' potential for improvement and recovery—thanks to the collaborative care that can be created as the result of interprofessional education.

Our future graduates will have a distinctive collaborative training and outlook, which will ultimately benefit patients.

Learn more at <http://www.westernu.edu/interprofessional/home-page>

OFFICE OF CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (OCPD)

The Office of Career and Professional Development (OCPD) at COMP advises, counsels, and mentors osteopathic medical students in pursuit of their ideal medical career. The longitudinal curriculum includes workshops, lectures, and small group sessions beginning from your first day at medical school through graduation. The office provides calendars, timelines, and resources for board preparation and residency placement. Over the last five years, COMP students maintained a 96% or higher residency placement rate. Our goal at WesternU is to provide each student with the highest quality mentorship to be successful along their professional career path.

As a resource center, we offer:

- Developing your Brand
- Medical Specialty Advising
- Careers in Medicine Website
- Development of the comprehensive academic portfolio – Medical Student Performance Evaluations (MSPE)
- Personal Statement review
- Notable Characteristics review
- Curriculum Vitae review
- Residency application process with timelines overview
- Interview preparation with Mock Interviews and use of the web-based tool “Big Interview”
- Residency Open House notifications
- Match Day Celebration activities

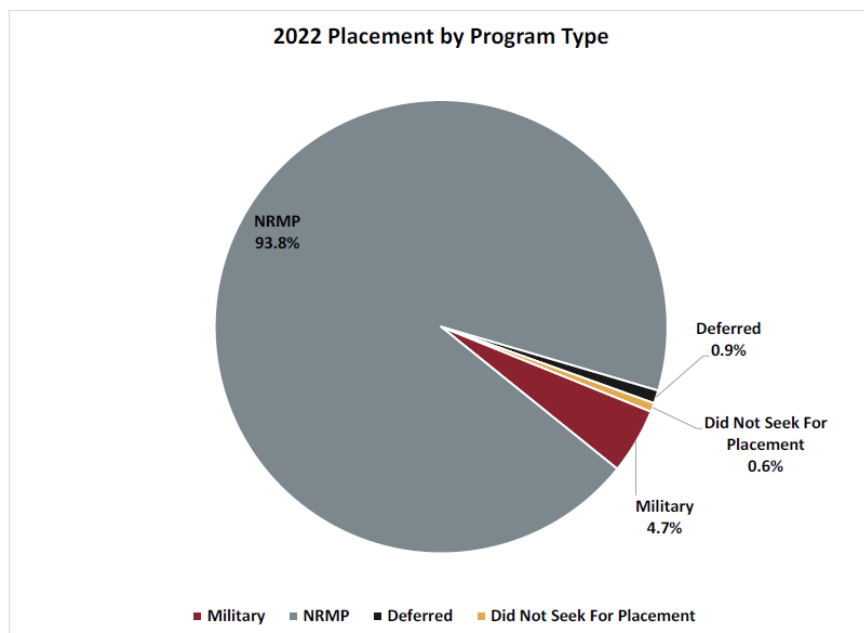
Placement Rates (2019 to 2023)

Class	Total Graduates	Placement Rate
DO/DOWN Class of 2023	320	98.4%
DO/DONW Class of 2022	324	99.1%
DO/DONW Class of 2021	316	97.8%
DO/DONW Class of 2020	315	96.8%
DO/DONW Class of 2019	328	98.8%

Class of 2023 Placement Rates

The DO/DONW class of 2023 is comprised of 320 students, three of whom deferred their placement to the 2024 cycle, and two did not seek placement. The chart below details the placement rate for the 315 DO/DONW# students that participated in the 2023 cycle by program/placement type.

Program	2023
NRMP	299
Military	15
Urology Match	1
Deferred	3
Did Not Place	2
Total Placed:	315
Placement Rate:	98.4%



Specialty	Total Placed	% of Total
Anesthesiology	13	4.1%
Child Neurology	3	1.0%
Dermatology	3	1.0%
Emergency Medicine	29	9.2%
Family Medicine	88	27.9%
General Surgery	5	1.6%
Internal Medicine	80	25.4%
Internal Medicine/Pediatrics	3	1.0%
Medicine - Preliminary	3	1.0%
Neurology	5	1.6%
Obstetrics-Gynecology	10	3.2%
Orthopedic Surgery	4	1.3%
Pathology – Anatomic and Clinical	3	1.0%
Pediatrics	20	6.3%
Phys Medicine & Rehab	13	4.1%
Psychiatry	16	5.1%
Radiology – Diagnostic	7	2.2%
Surgery – Preliminary	3	1.0%
Transitional Year	6	1.9%
Urology	1	0.3%
Total:	315	100.0%
Total Primary Care*:	191	
Primary Care %:	60.6%	

If you have questions about how the Office of Career & Professional Development can help you, please contact:

COMP

Lisa Warren, DO
Marian Safaoui, MD
Brenda Samaan, MA
Lacey Avila
June Guerrero

lwarren@westernu.edu - (909) 469-8492
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jguerrero@westernu.edu – (909) 469-5225

UNIVERSITY STUDENT AFFAIRS – SUPPORT SERVICES

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024

Learning Enhancement and Academic Development (LEAD) www.westernu.edu/lead/lead-about/

LEAD specializes in five main topics that support student through their academic journey here at WesternU. The five main areas include: a) one-on-one academic counseling; b) tutoring; c) the annual Summer Preparedness and Readiness Course (SPaRC); d) the Wellbeing Initiative; e) various workshops relevant to student life. All LEAD services are free of charge to the WesternU community, and all services are completely confidential

Academic Counseling In one-on-one academic counseling sessions, students can improve their competencies in a range of areas, including study strategies; test taking; focus and retention; time management; stress management; academic and professional writing skills; and more. Each 50-minute session is designed to address the student's unique needs. Appointments are confidential and free to all WesternU students. Students can schedule as many sessions as needed. Appointments are conducted online via Zoom, and when students return to campus, appointments can then be done in person in the LEAD Office and via Zoom.

Tutorial Assistance Program (TAP) This program offers peer-based, small group content review sessions. To receive TAP support, students must first meet with a LEAD academic counselor and then students must request a tutor. Our LEAD tutors are current and alumni students who have successfully completed the coursework students are requesting.

Wellbeing Initiative The initiative consists of Wellbeing workshops with topics that focus on student wellness. These activities aim to teach students skill sets to stay healthy and well while going through their rigorous programs. The office connects academic guidance with the mission of caring for students in a humanistic way.

Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy (HFCDHP)

We're on your side! HFCDHP is an advocate for students with permanent or temporary disabilities. Our goal is to ensure that all university programs and activities are accessible – by providing accommodations and services so students with disabilities can successfully complete their academic goals.

To learn additional information about the services we offer or to start the interactive process, which may take up to six weeks, please view our webpage at <https://www.westernu.edu/cdhp/>. Here you will find information on how to register for accommodations, required documentation, and other helpful information about our center. To contact our center, you may call (909) 469-5441 or email disabilityaccommodations@westernu.edu.

Please keep in mind, there are no charges to you for services that are needed to support your educational program. We are here to help you succeed!

Fitness – Pomona, CA and Lebanon, OR Campuses

<https://www.westernu.edu/students/students-services-fitness/>

We want you to stay mentally and physically fit while you are a student, so we offer several great opportunities to stay healthy:

1. **LA Fitness or SamFit** - You pay a discounted and subsidized rate (WesternU pays \$100 to the facility on your behalf) depending on your option for enrollment. The advertised rates are for the 2020-2021 academic year and may be subject to change in the future.
2. **Reimbursement to any Non-LA Fitness/SamFit gym** – You may be eligible for a reimbursement up to \$100 for an annual/pre-paid membership or a month-to-month membership (Excluding LA Fitness/SamFit).

Note: *Please keep in mind that gyms may experience forced closures during your active memberships due to the COVID19 pandemic. Many gyms, including LA Fitness, may not be offering refunds for closure dates but may compensate members in alternative methods.*

Counseling

<https://www.westernu.edu/students/students-services/students-services-counseling/>

We are pleased to provide all full-time students access to an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for students through OptumHealth. Under the EAP for students, you and any member of your immediate household are eligible for up to six free counseling sessions for each “incident” or situation. Counseling includes but is not

limited to emotional well-being; financial planning; work; and school issues. Counseling services may be accessed by telephone, via the web, or face-to-face. An on-campus counselor is also available at least 12 hours a week on each campus. Counseling is also provided through the Faculty Advisor Program and the Deans.

Identification Badges

Student identification badges must be always worn while on campus.

Health Insurance

<https://www.westernu.edu/registrar/registrar-about/registration-information/student-health-insurance/>.

As a full-time WesternU student, you must show during registration EACH academic year that you have a current health insurance policy. We encourage you to “shop around” for a health insurance plan that meets your specific needs. Many students are enrolled in plans offered by Blue Cross, Kaiser Permanente, HealthNet, PacifiCare, Aetna, US Healthcare, and United Healthcare. Many companies out there can give you the coverage you need for your specific health concerns. If you are unfamiliar with insurance terminology, [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) provides a glossary of health insurance terms that may be helpful as you review and compare your insurance

options. Coverage requirements for all students seeking to waive out of the school sponsored insurance plan are as follows:

- ACA compliant domestic health insurance plan for the entire academic year, including summer and holidays.
- Deductible of no more than \$1,000 per policy year
- Plan must utilize a provider network in the campus you are attending for primary care, specialty, hospital, and diagnostic care.

Should you choose not to go with another health insurance plan or if you do not show proof of insurance by the deadline, you will automatically be enrolled in the Aetna Student Health insurance plan which includes basic dental and vision coverage. This plan is designed to cover you for routine care and in the event of a major medical emergency. Under this plan, students have access to a network of healthcare providers. Listed below are some of the additional main highlights of this insurance plan. For complete details visit our health insurance page

at www.westernu.edu/registrar/registrar-about/registrationinformation/student-health-insurance/ or call WesternU’s insurance broker, HSA Consulting at (888) 978-8355 or by email at westernu@hsac.com.

NOTE: *There is a University-owned medical center (Patient Care Center) located on the WesternU Campus in Pomona, California and students are welcome to use this medical facility. There are no free services to students. Students may want to call in advance to verify that the wait time will be minimal. The Patient Care Center accepts many types of insurance including the insurance plan described above.*

Student Parking Student Parking

www.westernu.edu/campusmap/ **Annual parking permits are \$470, and semester parking permits are \$235** allowing you to park in designated WesternU parking places. These permits may be purchased during online registration. Students may also utilize daily parking permit spaces in lieu of purchasing an annual or semester parking permit. The daily permit spaces must be paid for anytime they are used (including evenings and weekends). The daily permit rates are as follows:

- \$3.00 before 7:00 p.m.
- \$1.00 after 7:00 p.m.

Please note: Daily permit rates are determined by the City of Pomona and are subject to change.

Housing

<https://www.westernu.edu/students-or/students-housing-moving-or/>

All our on-campus students live in the surrounding communities; many of which are within walking and biking distances. Some students choose to live within a 10-to-30-minute driving radius. The **University Student Affairs** office provides many-resources to **assist students in finding housing**. This includes online housing and

profiles of available rentals and roommate referral service for students wishing to share housing. Upon acceptance to WesternU, you will be able to access these online services through the U portal. It is the student's responsibility to secure his or her own housing. For the Lebanon area, a list of local apartment complexes is available to view at local apartment complexes . It is recommended that you secure housing at least two weeks before the first day of orientation.

Metrolink

www.metrolinktrains.com

If you are interested in using the Metrolink, which has a station just a few blocks from campus, be sure to secure housing east of campus. To access schedules and other information, please go online to www.metrolinktrains.com. Rates are determined by distance traveled (originating station to destination station). The rail line which runs parallel to WesternU is the Riverside Line which goes from Downtown Riverside to the Downtown Pomona station. There is also the San Bernardino Line which goes from San Bernardino to the Pomona North station (3 miles north of campus). These are the closest stations to WesternU.

Student Government Association, Community Service Clubs

<http://www.westernu.edu/students/students-government/> <http://www.westernu.edu/students/students-clubs-1/westernu-clubs-1/>

WesternU has a very active Student Government Association (SGA) on campus that serves as the voice of our students. In addition, we have over 160 different clubs between the Lebanon and Pomona campuses comprising of such diverse groups that include, but are not limited to, nationally affiliated professional organizations, cultural/religious groups, and interest-based groups. Our clubs and classes take part in a variety of community service events each year including offering free health screenings at numerous health fairs, facilitating *Santa's Workshop* for over 200 foster care children, and assisting at/participating in events such as the Special Olympics and 5K runs to support cancer research. We also host two *Club Days* per year where you have an opportunity to visit various club booths to discuss their mission and join as a member.

In addition, if you are interested in journalism, we encourage you to get involved in the publication of the **WesternU Humanism Magazine**. The magazine is written and edited by students under the direction of faculty advisors.

Diversity

We are proud of our diverse student body, and the many extracurricular activities offered on campus reflect that diversity. We offer a wide range of opportunities with campus organizations that include cultural, religious, medical, and fine arts clubs. The cultural diversity present on our campus provides students with an appreciation and respect for people of all backgrounds.

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Admissions Staff

The Admissions Office is staffed by the Associate Director of Admissions, the Assistant Director of Admissions, and four Admissions Counselors. The Counselors assist in the completion of your application, interview day scheduling, and they also assist with the planning and execution of interview day activities. The Assistant Director of Admissions works closely with the Admissions Committee to prepare files and reports for committee meetings. This position is also responsible for all communication to you on behalf of the Admissions Committee and with the Associate Director of Admission monitors and maintains enrollment. The Associate Director of Admissions responsibilities include oversight of the admissions process for COMP and COMP-Northwest including strategic enrollment management, the planning and execution all admissions policies and procedures in addition to meeting annual enrollment goals for the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (COMP) & COMP-Northwest.

Admissions Committee

Our Admissions Committee is comprised of faculty who have many years of experience in medical school admissions. They are conscientious in their review of applications and consider all aspects of each application knowing that professional potential is just as important as academic ability. Our Admissions Committee is the group on campus that makes recommendations on acceptance to the college Dean. Your interviewers assist the admissions committee by gathering information in a virtual panel interview setting. The Admissions Committee uses this information to make decisions on admission. The Chair of the Admissions Committee and the Associate Director of Admissions meet with the Dean for approval of committee decisions. Once the approval has been given, all candidates receive an email notification of a status update to their application. Candidates log onto their status page to review updates. This process can take 10 working days to accomplish.

Admissions Committee Decisions

Admit

You will receive a telephone call and/or an email notification informing you of the Committee's decision. An offer of admission does not imply, 1) that your application is complete, or 2) that we have verified coursework and your degree, or 3) that we are in receipt of all required documents. Your status page will outline the conditions of your acceptance, please read it carefully and if you have questions, contact your admissions counselor. Accepted candidates are directed to our Admitted Student Web Page. There you will find instructions, deadlines, and copies of documents you need to complete or take to your physician to complete. All documents must be received prior to registering for classes. To accept our offer of admissions, you must pay the acceptance deposit according to the schedule provided and complete and sign our Offer of Admission Form.

Alternate

- The alternate status is for this year only
- Alternates are not ranked until May of the entering year
- Alternate files will be periodically reviewed for consideration of an offer of admission.

Students selected as alternates will be notified of their status update electronically and may continue to add information to their application, i.e., letters of recommendation, new grades, volunteer work, clinical experience, and community service experiences. Any information that you would like the admissions committee to be aware of can be uploaded to your application by logging into your SLATE status page. Alternate candidates are contacted by email asking if they accept their alternate status. A YES response is required to remain in consideration for admission. Those responding with NO will be removed from consideration. Only applicants who have completed our prerequisite coursework at a satisfactory level will be offered admission. Please check with your admissions counselor to confirm that we have received confirmation of completion of prerequisite coursework, or confirmation of work in progress that will be completed prior to July of the entering year.

Deny

Students who are not selected for the program will be notified of their status update electronically. We interview over 700 candidates annually and offers of acceptance to all qualified applicants are not possible. Information can be provided explaining this decision if requested. Please contact your admissions counselor.

Background Check

The hospitals associated with our clinical education program require background checks on all incoming students to ensure the safety of the patients treated by our students. You will also be required to order a second background check in sufficient time for it to be reviewed by the hospitals prior to starting your clinical rotations. A background check typically takes 3 business days to complete. As an adult, if you have an international residential history (6 months or longer) within the last 7 years, you must request an international background check. If you request an international background check, the domestic background check will automatically be included. You are a **NEW STUDENT** even if you are currently enrolled in a graduate/other WesternU program, please carefully follow the instructions given. You must notify your Admissions Counselor of any convictions that occur between the completion of your background check and your enrollment at WesternU.

PreCheck, Inc., a firm specializing in background checks for healthcare workers, conducts the background checks. Your order must be placed online through *StudentCheck*. Your background check should **not** be requested prior to February 1st of the entering year.

PERSONAL COMPETENCIES FOR ADMISSION & MATRICULATION

A candidate for admission to the COMP/COMP-Northwest Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Program must possess, or be able to achieve through reasonable accommodation, certain sensory and motor functions, that would enable the individual to carry out the activities described in the sections that follow. Upon matriculation to the program, the student must continue to possess, or be able to achieve through reasonable accommodation, the personal competencies outlined below throughout their progression in the program. These personal competencies may also be referred to as technical standards in documents from the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA). The practice of medicine requires the performance of specific essential functions that fall into broad categories.

Graduation from the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine program signifies that the individual is prepared for entry into graduate medical education (GME). It therefore follows that graduates must have the knowledge and skills needed to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and be able to render a wide spectrum of osteopathic medical patient care. The student must be able to integrate, consistently, quickly, and accurately, all information received by whatever sense(s) employed. In addition, the individual must have the intellectual ability to learn, analyze, synthesize, and apply various types of information in a self-directed manner within the context of patient care. These requirements are consistent with acceptable clinical norms for licensed physicians.

For candidates or students who require a reasonable accommodation to meet the competencies, please contact the Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy (^{HF}CDHP) at [Disability Accommodations \(e-mail\)](#) or (909) 469-5297 or visit the [^{HF}CDHP web site](#). Under all circumstances, a candidate or student should be able to perform the following in a reasonably independent manner, with or without reasonable accommodation(s):

Please refer to the [College Catalog](#) for the complete for complete information regarding Personal Competencies for Admissions and Matriculation requirements.

COMPLETION OF YOUR APPLICATION AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

We must be in receipt of **all required documents by June 1 of the entering year, May 1 for ISAC students**. It is your responsibility to contact your Admissions Counselor and/or the Assistant Director of Admissions to confirm that we have **verified** receipt of all required documents.

- Official transcripts will be provided to us by AACOMAS. If you have additional coursework that was not included in your application, it is your responsibility to provide official transcripts for this work by June 1, May 1 for ISAC students.
- **Prerequisite coursework must be completed prior to enrollment at WesternU/COMP. If we have not confirmed all prerequisite coursework as complete, you will not be eligible to enroll.** The deadline for completion of this work is June 1, May 1 for ISAC students.
- **Confirmation of completion of a Baccalaureate degree prior to enrollment is a requirement. If you have not provided documentation via an official transcript, you will not be eligible to enroll.** If your degree will not be posted to your transcript by June 1, May 1 for ISAC students, we will need to confirm completion of all requirements for the baccalaureate degree with the registrar at your college/university and get the date of posting. Contact your Admissions Counselor to arrange this.

ADMITTED STUDENT HEALTH CLEARANCE DOCUMENT REQUIREMENT

Student Health and Safety

New matriculants into WesternU's health professions programs must submit evidence that they are in good health and be able to withstand the physical and mental pressures commonly placed upon professional students. All incoming students are required to submit a full medical history as well as the results of a physical examination, that is no more than 6 months old, prior to matriculation. New incoming students are required to submit all documentation as described in the [Student Health Packet](#). All documents are to be submitted at one time. Student Health cannot release holds until all required documents have been received and accepted. Those students who are returning to WesternU after a lapse of enrollment of at least six (6) months are required to submit an updated history and physical exam, including a valid TB clearance before they will be cleared to resume matriculation.

Additionally, serum blood titers are valid for no more than 4 years from the date they were originally processed. Any form or documentation required by the Student Health Office can be emailed to stu-emphealth@westernu.edu or fax 909-706-3785. It is the student's responsibility to ensure all forms are submitted to the Student Health Office. Students should not depend on their healthcare provider's office or their college to submit required documents on their behalf. Student Health does not have access to other systems, e.g., VSAS, where some student forms are uploaded and stored. For the complete list of requirements, please refer to the [University Catalog](#).

NEED HELP

The following links will assist you as you prepare to register for classes.

Acceptance Deposit Information
Award Letters and Check Disbursements
Status Page Access Instructions
Documents Status
Fitness
Health Insurance
Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy

[Martha Alfaro, Asst. Dir. Admissions](#)
[Financial Aid](#)
[Admissions Counselor](#)
[Admissions Counselor](#)
[Student Services](#)
[Registrar Office](#)
[Disability Accommodations](#)

Academic Calenda
Housing
Learning Enhancement and Academic Development
Laptop Set-up
Metrolink
Orientation/Welcome Week Event Information
Excused Activity Absence Request
Registration
WesternU Email Access Assistance

[Student Affairs](#)
[Student Housing](#)
[LEAD](#)
[Helpdesk](#)
[Train Schedule](#)

[COMP Student Affairs](#)
[Office of the Registrar](#)
[Helpdesk](#)

Admissions Office

Susan M. Downes Hanson, MS, Assoc. Director of Admissions
Martha Alfaro, Assistant Director of Admissions
Christopher Vu, Admissions Counselor III
Judith Mauricio, Admissions Counselor I

admissions@westernu.edu

COMP Administrative Offices

Michelle Emmert Park, Assoc. Dean for Student Affairs

osapomona@westernu.edu

Interview Day Faculty Ambassadors

Devendra K. Agrawal, PhD, Professor, Department of Translational Research
Gregory Pecchia, DO, Associate Professor/Director of Innovation and Telehealth, COMP

Curriculum

Gerald Thrush, PhD, Associate Dean, Preclinical Education

COMPpreclinical@westernu.edu

Clinical Education (OMSIII & IV)

Natalie Nevins, DO Assistant Dean
Marisa Orser, Assistant Director

COMProtations@westernu.edu

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

FAFSA – October 1

- If you intend to request financial aid, you should plan to file your FAFSA after October 1. Our school code is **024827**.

WICHE – October 1

- If you are a legal resident of Arizona, Montana, New Mexico, Washington, and Wyoming, you may be eligible for a scholarship. Contact your state **WICHE** Office.

On-line Registration – July 1

- Registration information and instructions will be emailed by late June, and you may register online at your convenience between July 1 and July 31. Registration must be completed by **July 31**. Registration for late admits will be extended.
- **ISAC Students** on-line registration takes place between May 15 and May 31. Registration must be completed by **May 31**.

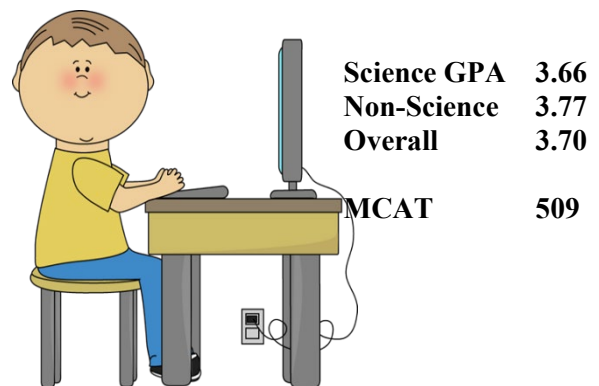
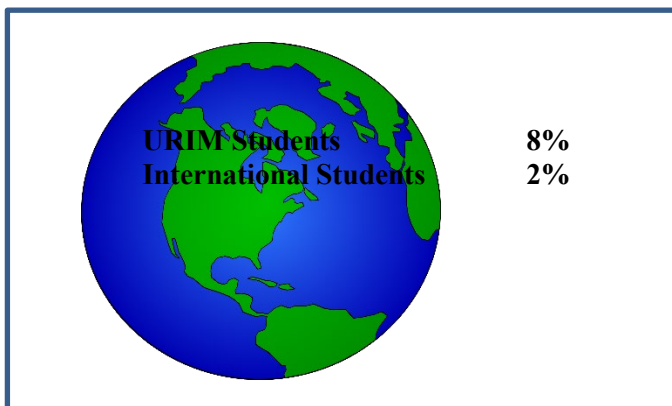
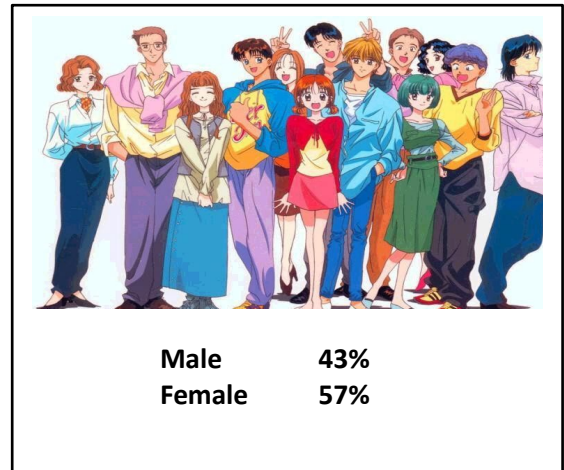
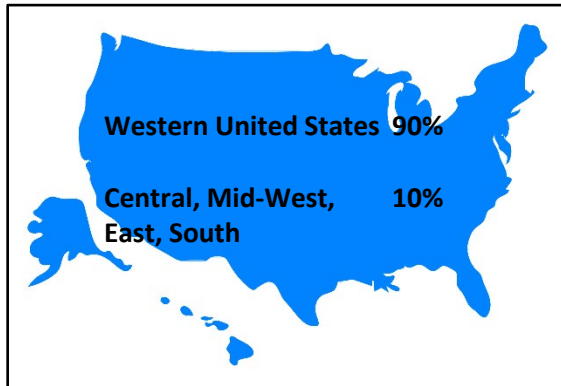
New Student Activities

- **ISAC Student Orientation – Mid-June** - ISAC Orientation takes place the first day of ISAC class, attendance is mandatory.
- **New Student Orientation – First full week in August**. Attendance is **mandatory**. ISAC Student attendance at New Student Orientation is **mandatory**.
- **Convocation – TBD**
- **White Coat Ceremony August** – Following new student orientation attendance **mandatory**
- **First Day of Class – August** – Second full week in August. - Attendance is **mandatory**.

NOTE: Attendance at all Orientation, Convocation, White Coat, and First Day of Class activities is **mandatory**.

An excused absence can only be obtained from the COMP Dean or their designee. ***Failure to participate in new student activities may result in the rescindment of your offer of acceptance.***

FAST FACTS



Bachelor's Degree	100%
Graduate, Doctoral Degree	6%

Average Age
24



POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

WesternU Accreditation

Western University of Health Sciences is accredited by the Senior College and University Commission of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). WASC's statement of accreditation status can be found at <http://www.wascsenior.org/institutions/western-university-health-sciences>. You may contact WASC at 985 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501. Phone: (310) 748-9001, Fax: (310) 748-9797, E-mail: wascsr@wascsenior.org. WASC is a non-profit organization that evaluates the quality and educational effectiveness of schools, colleges, and universities. WASC is one of six regional accreditation agencies in the United States. While it is not officially regulated by the government, it is regularly reviewed by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

COMP Accreditation

The academic program of Western University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific is accredited by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), which is recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE). The College has received accreditation status from the American Osteopathic Association's Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation, which is the recognized accrediting agency for the approval of colleges preparing osteopathic physicians. The address and phone number of the accrediting agency are Secretary, COCA; American Osteopathic Association; 142 East Ontario Street; Chicago, IL 60611; Telephone 312/202-8124; Fax 312/202-8424.

In addition to the COCA, COMP-Northwest is authorized by the State of Oregon to offer and confer the academic degrees described herein, following a determination that state academic standards will be satisfied under OAR 583-030. Inquiries concerning the standards or school compliance may be directed to the Office of Degree Authorization, Higher Education Coordinating Commission, 3225 25th Street SE, Salem, Oregon 97302.

Catalog Overview

The [University Catalog](#) is now available on-line. To ease download times for viewing, we have broken up the catalogue into major sections, academic program by academic program. In addition, the information contained in the Student Handbooks has been incorporated into the catalog. University Academic Policies and Procedures are contained as a section within each program component.

- Student Employment
- Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy
- Psychological Counseling Services
- Sexual Harassment
- Drug Free Environment
- Dress Code
- Standards of Academic and Professional Conduct
- Attendance and Absences
- Background Investigation

Diversity Statement

The students, faculty, administration, and staff of Western University of Health Sciences place great value on diversity. For us, it is a philosophy of inclusion, with pluralism and academic freedom as its foundation. WesternU is committed to an open environment that promotes, accepts, and celebrates different points of view. WesternU is a community of individuals in which diversity is recognized as being the core of our intellectual, social, cultural, physical, emotional, and moral lives. We are enriched by our encounters with one another, and we strive to learn from each other in an atmosphere of positive engagement and mutual respect. Our understanding and acceptance of one another in the campus environment contributes to our ability to care for our patients, who live in a diverse society.

We acknowledge our guaranteed rights of free expression under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. However, we also hold unique responsibilities as individuals, answerable for our own behavior and fully accountable for our actions. Seeking balance between rights and responsibilities makes us keenly aware of the dangers of defamatory, libelous, or obscene behavior, the value of community and the importance of respecting our differences and commonalities. As individuals committed to health professions education in the osteopathic tradition, we embrace the important principle of caring for the whole person-in body, mind, and spirit.

NON-DISCRIMINATION, ANTI-HARASSMENT AND ANTI-RETALIATION POLICY

Western University of Health Sciences (WesternU) recognizes that unlawful treatment and harassment, on the basis of an individual's protected characteristic (or status), is a form of discrimination. Discrimination and harassment are contrary to WesternU's mission to provide a campus community that educates and teaches with excellence, humanism, and compassion. Accordingly, WesternU's Nondiscrimination, Anti-Harassment, and Anti-Retaliation Policy strictly prohibits discrimination and harassment in its programs and activities, on the basis of race, color, national, ancestry, citizenship, ethnicity, creed, religion or religious creed (sex or gender (including gender identity or expression), marital status, sexual orientation, disability (both physical and mental) including HIV and AIDS, medical condition (cancer and genetic characteristics), pregnancy (which includes childbirth, breastfeeding and medical conditions related to pregnancy, childbirth or breastfeeding), age, genetic information, military and veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable law. WesternU also prohibits any form of retaliation against a person, who under good faith, reported a violation under the policy or who participated in any investigation or proceeding under the policy. Violations of the policy will lead to prompt and appropriate administrative action, including and up to termination of employment or expulsion from the University

INTERVIEW DAY EVALUATION SURVEY

Approximately one to two days after your interview, a link to the Interview Day Evaluation Survey will be emailed to you. The information that you provide will remain confidential. Your comments are important to us, and we hope that you will take a few minutes to complete it. We consider your comments when planning our future interviews and will help us to provide constructive feedback to faculty, staff, and students. If you do not receive the survey link, please contact the admissions office to request it.