



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

TREATING OUR FAMILY AND YOURS

## U.S. OSTEOPATHIC LICENSURE SUMMARY

JANUARY 2014

### **HOW TO USE THIS SUMMARY**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Osteopathic Licensing Summary contains relevant information about the licensing requirements in each state. DOs who graduated more than 25 years ago, with fewer “standardized” credentials, may be subject to different standards of eligibility for licensure. Their questions should be addressed to the specific licensing board involved.

Generally, a license can be obtained in one of two ways:

1. Examination administered by the board. The board may prepare its own examination or administer an examination that has been prepared and purchased from a specialized agency. Today, the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) and the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX-USA) are the most widely used tests.
2. Reciprocity or endorsement of a license previously received from another state. No applicant is ever entitled to automatic reciprocity, for all licensing boards reserve the right to exercise discretion individually in evaluating an applicant's personal, professional, and moral qualifications. Also, the license presented for reciprocity or endorsement must usually have been issued on the basis of a written examination. Many licensing boards are not specific about the states with which they would reciprocate; while we have attempted to list as much reciprocity information as we have, DOs having a question about the eligibility of a particular state's license should address it to the specific board, giving details. At one time a majority of states had basic science requirements and administered a written examination. This explains why certain boards will reciprocate with certificates once issued by states that have now abolished their basic science law.

Pre-professional education requirements are not described, although they are retained in many licensing statutes. Some statutes even continue to specify the extent of a high school education that an applicant must have. The admissions requirements of all accredited osteopathic colleges serve to insure that virtually all recipients of the DO degree now have a minimum of three years in college, and most have a BA or BS degree.

Fees have been given where information was available, but since fees change more frequently than any other requirement, users should expect to find occasional changes, and should, of course, rely on the latest information supplied by a particular board.

#### **MEANING OF TERMS**

Scope of practice - Many states do not adequately define the scope of a physician's practice rights in their licensing statute, be he/she a DO or a MD. Depending on the state, a DO may receive a license to practice “medicine and surgery,” “osteopathic medicine and surgery,” “osteopathy and surgery,” or “osteopathy,” and all may convey the same rights. For brevity, the AOA uses the term “unlimited” practice rights, which for practical purposes, means the treatment of human ailments, etc., by any and all methods; and can be comparably described as the same rights received by MDs. If the scope of practice is not listed under an individual state's requirements, it is “unlimited.”

Educational requirements - As previously indicated, this heading is usually limited to summarizing the state's definition of an approved osteopathic college. As a practical matter, graduation from an AOA accredited college should satisfy the professional educational requirements of all states.

Postgraduate training - This section details the number of years and the type of programs that will satisfy the postgraduate training requirement. All states require at least one year of postgraduate training. Some states require two or three years of training.

**Board** - This term refers to the licensing board empowered to recommend or actually issue osteopathic licenses. There are basically three types of boards: (1) DO - composed entirely of osteopathic physicians and has the responsibility of granting unlimited licenses to DOs; (2) MD - composed entirely of MDs but having responsibility for granting unlimited licenses to both DOs and MDs; (3) Composite - composed of DOs and MDs in varying ratios, but usually with a majority of MDs, and has the responsibility of granting unlimited licenses to DOs and MDs. In addition to the physicians who sit on state licensing boards, public members are now included on the board, regardless of the board composition.

**Board address** - This section lists the official name, contact person, address and phone number for each state's licensing board.

**Osteopathic members** - Those DOs who sit on the state licensing boards are included in this section.

**Sunset laws** - Many states include "sunset" provisions when enacting licensing boards. In such cases, the authority of the board expires, or "sunset," on a given date unless specifically re-authorized by the legislature.

**Examinations accepted** - This section lists the examinations accepted by state licensing boards. Currently, the two national examinations recognized by state licensing boards are the COMLEX-USA and the USMLE. Both the COMLEX exam and the USMLE are three-part national examinations consisting of both written examinations and clinical skills examinations. COMLEX Level 1 or USMLE Step 1 is usually taken during the second year of medical school; COMLEX Level 2 or USMLE Step 2, both the written portion and the Performance Evaluation, is usually taken in the fourth year of medical school; and COMLEX Level 3 or USMLE Step 3 can be taken during the first year of postgraduate training. So when it states that an examination, i.e., COMLEX, USMLE, etc., is recognized, it means all the Levels or Steps must be successfully passed.

The National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) develops and administers a complete and comprehensive examination program for DOs -- the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX). The COMLEX replaced the NBOME exam. The United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) is the one, single medical licensing examination for allopathic physicians and replaced the Federation Licensing Examination (FLEX) and the National Board Medical Examination (NBME).

**License fee** - This area contains the cost for securing an unlimited license. Fees change more frequently than any other requirement, so be sure to check with the specific licensing board for exact amounts.

**Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS)** - The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) created the FCVS to verify a physician's core credentials -- identity, medical education and training, and examination history. While a majority of states will accept the FCVS, there are some licensure jurisdictions that will not accept the FCVS. These jurisdictions that will not accept the FCVS require direct source verification for physician licensure.

**Reciprocity or Endorsement** - See the appropriate paragraph in the Introduction.

**Special licenses** - This section lists information about availability of temporary permits granting practice privileges pending the issuance of unlimited license.

**Re-registration** - States require periodical re-registration. Dates and fees are given when known.

**CME requirement** - Continuing medical education shall be in an area of the physician's practice, reflect the professional needs of the licensee in order to meet the health care needs of the public and include at least one contact hour of training or education in each of the following topics: (A) Infectious diseases, including, but not limited to, acquired immune deficiency syndrome and human immunodeficiency virus, (B) risk management, (C) sexual assault, and (D) domestic violence. Additionally, for registration periods beginning on and after October 1, 2010, coursework in cultural competency is also required.

**Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC)** - OCC is a process in which AOA board certified DOs can maintain currency and demonstrate competency in their specialty area. Each AOA specialty certifying board developed OCC requirements implemented as of Jan. 1, 2013. OCC is comprised of 5 components: 1) unrestricted licensure; 2) lifelong learning and continuing medical education; 3) cognitive assessment; 4) practice performance assessment and improvement; and 5) continuous AOA membership. Some states have begun to accept OCC, or the related Maintenance of Certification (MOC), requirements as acceptable in place of CME requirements.

**Malpractice insurance** - Information regarding the state requirements for and availability of malpractice insurance coverage has been provided by some states. For information about specific insurance carriers, contact the divisional osteopathic society in the appropriate state.

**Those interested in additional information about states' licensing requirements may contact the individual licensing boards or AOA's Director of State Government Affairs, 142 East Ontario, Chicago IL 60611; (800)-621-1773 ext. 8185.**

## **STATE REQUIREMENTS**

### **ALABAMA**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from osteopathic college approved by medical board

Postgraduate Training: 1 year of approved AOA or ACGME training for graduates of accredited schools; 3 years for graduates of schools not accredited

Board: 15 MDs

Board Address: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners, Jackie Baskin, Director of Licensure; Larry D. Dixon, Executive Director  
PO Box 946, Montgomery, AL 36101-0946 Phone (334) 242-4116

Osteopathic Member: None

Website: [www.albme.org](http://www.albme.org)

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, state examinations administered before FLEX (except Florida & Puerto Rico)

License Fee: \$75; application fee - \$175; application packet - \$20 (total fee - \$270)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: SPEX examination required if applicant has not passed a written certification exam for licensure or has not been Board certified or re-certified by an AOA or an ABMS member within the last 10 years.

Special Licenses: No temporary permits

Re-registration: Annual, by December 31 - \$300; Effective May 25, 2012, grace period (January 1 through January 31) eliminated

CME Requirements: 25 hours of Category 1 every year; OCC/MOC not accepted as a substitute

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

### **ALASKA**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from osteopathic college approved by state medical board

Postgraduate Training: 1 year in AOA or AMA approved hospital if graduated prior to January 1, 1995; 2 years if the graduation date is after January 1, 1995.

Board: 5 MDs, 2 public members, 1 PA

Board Address: Alaska State Medical Board, Licensing Examiner, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Occupational Licensing, PO Box 110806, Juneau, AK 99811-0806 (907) 465-2541 or Debora Stovern, Executive Administrator, State Medical Board, 550 West Seventh Avenue – Suite 1500, Anchorage, AK 99501. Phone (907) 269-8163  
Fax (907) 269-8196

Osteopathic Member: None

Website: [www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/pmed.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/pmed.htm)

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

Other Requirements: In person interview requested at the discretion of the Board

License Fee: \$590; application fee - \$250 (total fee - \$840)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): accepts

Reciprocity or Endorsement: SPEX may be required

Special Licenses: Temporary permit until board meets to consider endorsement application, \$145; Locum Tenens permit to substitute for Alaskan physician, \$200 + \$150 non-refundable application fee

Re-registration: Biennial, December 31 of even numbered years - active - \$590; inactive - \$250

CME Requirements: Require 25 hours in AOA or AMA Category 1 per year; OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

### **ARIZONA**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year approved by AOA or ACGME

Board: 5 DOs, 2 public members

Board Address: Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine and Surgery, Jenna Jones, Executive Director, 9535 E. Doubletree Ranch Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85258-5539 Phone (480) 657-7703

Osteopathic Members: Douglas Cunningham, DO; Martin B. Reiss, DO; Scott A. Steingard, DO; Michael P. Ward, DO; Vas Sabeeh, DO

Website: [www.azdo.gov](http://www.azdo.gov)

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX (75% or better on both components)

License Fee: application fee - \$400 plus pro-rated licensure fee

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Arizona allows doctors to be licensed based on “continuous practice”. If a physician passed the licensing exam more than 7 years ago and has been in advanced training (residency or fellowship) or in practice continuously from the date of first licensure in any State, the physician can substitute “continuous practice” for having recent exam scores. The same application form is used.

Personal interview and/or oral examination may be required; interview and/or examination given intermittently and applications must be filed 60 days in advance.

Special Licenses: Locum Tenens issued for 90 day period - \$300; can be renewed once for another 90 days - \$300; Education Teaching Permit; Training Permit for individuals in accredited internship, residency or clinical fellowship training programs - \$50; Short Term Permit for individuals in accredited internship, residency or clinical fellowship training programs in Arizona for the purpose of CME - \$50.

Re-registration: Biennial, December 31 - \$636

CME Requirements: Arizona requires that licensees receive 20 hours of CME per year which must include at least 12 hours of category 1A AOA CME and no more than 8 hours of category 1 ACCME CME or that licensee has participated in an approved internship, residency, or fellowship (postgraduate training can only be applied to the first 20 CME hours after initial licensure, even if training continues beyond 1 year after initial licensure); OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **ARKANSAS**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year in an AOA or ACGME accredited program

Board: 11 MDs, 1 DO, 2 public members

Board Address: Arkansas State Medical Board, Peggy Pryor Cryer, Executive Secretary, 1401 West Capital Avenue, Suite 340 Little Rock, AR 72201 Phone (501) 296-1802 Fax (501) 603-3555

Osteopathic Member: Veryl D. Hodges, DO

Website: [www.armedicalboard.org](http://www.armedicalboard.org)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, NBME, State Board exam taken prior to 1975

Other Requirements: Criminal background checks

License Fee: application fee - \$400; processing fee - \$100 (total fee - \$500); temporary permit fee also required - \$50

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): No, requires direct source verification.

Reciprocity or Endorsement: No

Special Licenses: Temporary permit can be issued after every detail of the application process has been completed and is ready for Board approval. Temporary Permits must be requested in writing with required fee - \$50

Re-registration: As of July 1, 2005: Annual - \$200, due in month of birth. License expires on the last day of the applicant's birth month.

CME Requirements: 20 credit hours of AOA or AMA Category 1 or 2 per year; 10 hours must be Category 1 and in the area of the physician's primary practice; OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute, but hours are granted for time spent in preparation for specialty board certification or recertification examination.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **CALIFORNIA**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA and California Board approved college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year approved by AOA or ACGME, which includes at least 4 months of direct patient care medicine in an approved postgraduate training program.

Basic Science Board: Yes

Board: 5 DOs, 4 public members

Board Address: Osteopathic Medical Board of California, Angelina M. Burton, Executive Director, 1300 National Drive, Suite 150, Sacramento, CA 95834-1991 Phone (916) 928-8390 Fax (916) 928-8392

Osteopathic Members: David Connett, DO; Michael Feinstein, DO; James Lally, DO; Jane Xenos, DO; Joseph Zammuto, DO

Website: [www.ombc.ca.gov/](http://www.ombc.ca.gov/)

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX steps 1 through 3 completed and passed, NBOME, COMVEX or an equivalent state written exam that tests for osteopathic principles.

Other Requirement: Applicants should allow 16 weeks for fingerprint card to clear proper channels.

License Fee: application fee - \$200; fingerprint check fee - \$51 (total fee - \$251)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: No reciprocity or endorsement with any other state.

Special Licenses: No temporary or limited licenses

Re-registration: Biennial renewable every other year or the applicant's birth month (even birth month i.e. February, April, June, etc... renew on even year and odd birth month i.e. January, March, May, etc...renew on odd year): Active - \$400

CME Requirements: 150 hours of AOA or Board approved per three year period - 60 hours must be Osteopathic Category 1A or 1B for active license. In addition, all physicians must complete a one-time requirement of 12 hours of CME in subjects of pain management and the treatment of terminally ill and dying patients within 4 years of being licensed. Pathology and Radiology specialists are exempt. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required. However, a physician is required to carry liability insurance in an outpatient surgery setting pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2216.2. A physician must also follow the reporting requirements cited in Business and Professions Code section 802 in regard to lawsuit settlements and arbitration awards.

## COLORADO

Educational Requirements: Graduation from a recognized osteopathic college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year in a hospital approved by the AOA or ACGME

Board: 8 MDs, 3 DOs, 1 PA, 4 public members

Board Address: Colorado Medical Board, Marshall S. Smith, Program Director, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1350, Denver, CO 80202 Phone (303) 894-7690 Fax (303) 894-7692

Osteopathic Members: Donna M. Baldwin, DO; J. Dale Utt, DO; Eric Ryan Groce, DO

Website: [www.dora.state.co.us/medical](http://www.dora.state.co.us/medical)

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, state examinations.

License Fee: \$522

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Endorsement

Special Licenses: Physician Training License; Physician Assistant License

Re-registration: Biennial, April 30 - \$397 (renewal fee subject to change)

CME Requirements: None

Malpractice Insurance: Insurance companies that write malpractice insurance in Colorado are required to report all settlements or judgments against physicians licensed by the state. Physicians practicing medicine in Colorado must meet financial responsibility standards in the amount of \$1,000,000 per incident and \$3,000,000 annual aggregate per year.

## CONNECTICUT

Educational Requirements: Graduated with the MD or DO degree from a medical school accredited by the LCME or the AOA

Postgraduate Training: Completed at least 2 years of progressive, post graduate medical training as a resident physician in a program accredited by the ACGME or the AOA

Board: 8 MDs, 1 DO, 1 PA, 4 public members

Board Address: Connecticut Medical Examining Board, Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison, 410 Capitol Ave., MS#13PHO, P.O. Box 340308, Hartford, CT 06134 Phone (860) 509-7648. Examination and Licensure: Stephen Carragher, Health Program Supervisor, 410 Capitol Ave, 12 APP, Hartford, CT 06134-0308 Phone (860) 509-7648.

Osteopathic Member: Howard J. Sadinsky, DO

Website: <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3143&q=388902>

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, NBME, LMCC, state board licensing exam before June 1, 1979

License Fee: \$565

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: None

Special Licenses: None

Re-registration: Renewal fee - \$565; reinstatement fee - \$565

CME Requirements: A licensed physician shall earn a minimum of 50 contact hours of qualifying continuing medical education every 2 years commencing on the first date of license renewal; 1 contact hour means a minimum of 50 minutes of continuing education activity. Once every 6 years, 1 CME hour in each of the following topics: (A) Infectious diseases, including, but not limited to, acquired immune deficiency syndrome and human immunodeficiency virus, (B) risk management, (C) sexual assault, (D) domestic violence, (E) cultural competency, and (F) behavioral health. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Each DO licensed to practice osteopathic medicine that provides direct patient care services shall maintain professional liability insurance or other indemnity against liability for malpractice. The insurance must be no less than \$500,000 for one person, per occurrence, with an aggregate of not less than \$1,500,000.

## DELAWARE

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA or AMA approved medical school

Postgraduate Training: 1 year in an AOA or AMA approved hospital; if foreign-trained, 3 years is required

Board: 7 MDs, 2 DOs (must include at least 1 DO), 7 public members

Board Address: Delaware Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline, Gayle MacAfee, Executive Director, Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Blvd., Suite 203, Dover, DE 19904 Phone (302) 744-4500

Osteopathic Member: Joseph M. Parise, DO; Blake L. Bakst, DO

Website: <http://www.dpr.delaware.gov/boards/medicalpractice/index.shtml>

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, state examinations taken prior to January, 1973

Other Requirements: Interview with board member, recommendation from Chief of Staff, verification of licensure in good standing on all licenses, and self-query from the NPDB and HIPDB, and criminal background check. Also, service letters at each facility for past 5 years; and sex offender and adult abuse registries.

License Fee: \$301

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: No

Special Licenses: No

Re-registration: Biennial, renewal every odd year

CME Requirements: 40 hours every 2 years - must be Category 1 AMA or AOA; OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: State law provides for revision of judicial process in health care malpractice claims, appropriation for implementing malpractice review panels, and establishment of Health Care Injury Insurance Study Commission. No minimum insurance requirement.

## **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

Educational Requirements: The equivalent of 4 years of instruction and training at a school which is legally chartered or organized in the United States or Canada and was accredited at the time of the applicant's graduation by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) of the American Medical Association (AMA), the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or the Committee on the Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools. Applicants must be in receipt of the degree of MD or DO

Postgraduate Training: 2 years of postgraduate clinical training, except those applicants who graduated prior to January 1, 1990, and applicants using Step 3 of the USMLE as part of their examination requirement, shall only be required to have 1 year of postgraduate clinical training. All postgraduate clinical training must be at a hospital or health care facility licensed in the United States in a program accredited by the ACGME or the AOA, or in Canada accredited by the LMCC.

Board: 7 physicians, 3 public members, 1 Director of the Department of Health or Designee

Board Address: District of Columbia Board of Medicine, Jacqueline Watson, DO, MBA, Executive Director, 899 North Capitol Street, NE, First Floor, Washington, DC 20002; Phone (202) 724-4900 or (877) 672-2174.

Osteopathic Member: None

Website: [www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/bomed](http://www.hpla.doh.dc.gov/bomed)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, NBME, USMLE, FLEX, LMCC

Other Requirements: Beginning 2010 new applicants for a health care license, registration or certification in the District of Columbia will be required to undergo a criminal background check as part of the licensure process. Adverse information will be reviewed by the District of Columbia Board of Medicine for professions falling under the board's purview.

License Fee: application and licensing fee - \$805; renewal fee - \$500

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: No reciprocity or endorsement; applicants may apply by "waiver of examination" if an accepted exam was successfully completed.

Special Licenses: No temporary permits, a postgraduate physician may practice medicine in a clinical training program approved by the AOA, ACGME, or the Board. Medical Training License for residents and fellows in training is currently under congressional review and the anticipated DC law date is March 21, 2012.

Re-registration: Biennial (even years), December 31 - \$500

CME Requirements: Physicians with an active DC license shall submit proof of having completed 50 American Medical Association Physician Recognition Award (AMA/PRA) Category 1 hour of Board of Medicine approved continuing education credit during the 2 year period preceding the date the license expires. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **FLORIDA**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA accredited college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year AOA approved rotating first year. Any applicant who has not completed an AOA approved internship must apply to the AOA for approval of first year of the ACGME residency for educational equivalence. If the AOA approves the ACGME residency's first year for educational equivalency and denies the demonstration of good cause for having taken the ACGME residency, the Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine shall review the applicant's demonstration of good cause.

Board: 5 DOs, 2 public members

Board Address: Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine, Anthony Jusevitch, Executive Director, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C-06, Tallahassee FL 32399-3256 Phone (850) 245-4161

Osteopathic Members: James St. Louis, DO; Joel Rose, DO; Ronald Burns, DO, Anna Hayden, DO

Website: [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/osteopath/os\\_home.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/osteopath/os_home.html)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, COMVEX, state board exam

Other Requirements: Fingerprints - \$48

License Fee: \$405 plus application fee - \$200 (total fee - \$605)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Yes, strongly recommended

Reciprocity or Endorsement: By endorsement, provided applicant has passed all parts of exam conducted by the NBOME or other substantially similar exam approved by the board. Interview may be required.

Special Licenses: Limited and Faculty; Area of Critical Need; Osteopathic Expert Witness

Re-registration: Biennial, March 31 every even year, Active - \$431; Inactive - \$231

CME Requirements: 40 hours biennially; 20 hours must be AOA Category 1-A relating to the practice of osteopathic medicine or under osteopathic auspices, 13-15 general hours can be AOA or AMA approved. 5 of the CME hours required for renewal shall be 1 hour in the area of Professional & Medical Ethics Education, 1 hour Florida Laws and Rules, 2 hours prevention of medical errors, 1 hour Laws



regarding the Federal & State Laws Related to Prescribing of Controlled Substances. Medical Ethics, Florida Laws & Rules, Controlled Substances & the Prevention of Medical Error must be obtained by completion of live, participatory attendance course. 1 hour HIV/AIDS course (due first, biennial renewal only) and 2 hours once every third biennium in the area of domestic violence, 10 CME credit hours shall be awarded for successful completion of each 6-month training program period. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Must carry at least \$100,000 in malpractice coverage to practice medicine, and must carry \$250,000 in malpractice coverage to have hospital privileges. Allows no malpractice insurance if the physician posts a sign in his or her office indicating to patients that he or she does not carry medical malpractice insurance.

## **GEORGIA**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an osteopathic college in good standing with the board

Postgraduate Training: 1 year AOA or ACGME approved postgraduate internship/residency training

Board: 11 MDs, 2 DO, 2 consumer members, 1 Ex-Officio member

Board Address: Georgia Composite State Board of Medical Examiners, LaSharn Hughes, MBA, Executive Director, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 36<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 Phone (404) 656-3913

Osteopathic Members: Charles L. White, DO; William Sightler, DO

Website: [www.medicalboard.georgia.gov](http://www.medicalboard.georgia.gov)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, LMCC, STATE BOARD, NBME

License Fee: initial & reinstatement fee - \$400; renewal fee - \$155

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: No, must start at the beginning of the process

Special Licenses: Teacher's License - \$300; institutional physician renewal - \$80; provisional physician renewal - \$50

Re-registration: birth month renewal fee - \$155; late fee - \$355 for 3 months after birth month (license revoked for non-renewal after 3 months)

CME Requirements: 40 hours over 2 years of AOA Category 1 or AMA Category 1, AAFP Prescribed Credit, ACOG Category 1, ACEP Category 1. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required by state law, but physicians must disclose to the public if they do not carry malpractice insurance.

## **HAWAII**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year internship in AOA or AMA approved hospital

Board: 7 MDs, 2 DOs, 2 public members

Board Address: Hawaii Medical Board, Constance Cabral, Executive Director, 335 Merchant Street, Room 301, Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone (808) 586-3000

Osteopathic Members: Karen E. Sept, DO

Website: <http://hawaii.gov/dcca/pvl/boards/medical/>

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

License Fee: \$400

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: With all jurisdictions having equal requirements

Special Licenses: Board can issue temporary permits to osteopathic residents.

Re-registration: Biennial, June, even numbered years - \$190

CME Requirements: Complete 40 Category 1 or 1A CME hours during each 2 year licensing cycle (even years). OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **IDAHO**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year in an AOA or AMA hospital approved for internships

Board: 5 MDs, 1 DO, 3 public members

Board Address: Idaho State Board of Medicine, Nancy Kerr, Executive Director, 1755 Westgate Drive, Suite 140, Boise, ID 83704 Phone (208) 327-7000

Osteopathic Member: Christopher C. Peine, DO

Website: [www.bom.idaho.gov](http://www.bom.idaho.gov)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

Other Requirements: Interview may be required

License Fee: \$500

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: An expedited method of obtaining full physician licensure in Idaho that is available to all physicians who meet the Licensure Endorsement criteria, Section 53. Endorsement is not a temporary license process nor is it reciprocity.

Special Licenses: Any applicant eligible to be licensed without examination or inquiry pursuant to Section 050, except a volunteer license applicant, submitted all required application forms and fees, has no history of disciplinary action, limitation, pending investigation or restriction on any license to practice and is only awaiting the criminal background check outcome; \$100 + endorsement fee.

Re-registration: Annual - \$250; Inactive - \$100

CME Requirements: 40 hours practice relevant to Category 1 every 2 years. OCC/MOC not mentioned, but the Board accepts certification or recertification with a board of the ABMS, AOA, or RCPSC in lieu of compliance with CME requirements.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## ILLINOIS

Educational Requirements: Satisfactory completion of 6 year post-secondary course of study consisting of 2 academic years of a course of instruction in a college or university and 4 academic years of medical education from a medical or osteopathic college accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education or the American Osteopathic Bureau on Professional Education.

Postgraduate Training: 12 months in hospital approved by state if applicant entered postgraduate clinical training program prior to December 31, 1987; 24 months thereafter.

Board: Illinois Medical Licensing Board: 5 MDs, 1 DO, 1 DC. Disciplinary Board: 5 MDs, 1 DC, 2 public members.

Board Address: Jay Stewart, JD, Executive Director, Med-1, 320 W. Washington, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Springfield, IL 62786 Phone (217) 785-0800

Website: <http://www.idfpr.com/dpr/WHO/med.asp>

Osteopathic Member: Dennis D. Palmer, DO

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations: NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, LMCC, SPEX, COMVEX

License Fee: \$300

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Applicant must be currently licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches in another jurisdiction.

Applicants considered on individual basis - Part 3 of USMLE may be required if not certified by an American specialty board, received special honors or awards, had articles published in reputable journals, or participated in the writing of textbooks on medicine. Interview and/or SPEX or COMVEX may be required.

Special Licenses: temporary certificates for residency training programs - \$100; visiting physicians - \$100; visiting professors - \$300. An inactive category for retired or otherwise non-practicing physicians which contains provisions for reinstatement to active standing.

Re-registration: Every 3 years on July 31 - \$300 (in-state); 3 years for out of state address - \$600

CME Requirement: Licensees are required to complete a total of 150 hours per pre-renewal period. A minimum of 60 hours of the total required hours should be obtained in formal CME programs; the remaining 90 hours shall be obtained in informal CME programs or activities. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Available through commercial carriers

## INDIANA

Educational Requirements: Diploma from recognized college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year, prior to licensure, AOA or ACGME approved; 2 years for graduates of foreign medical schools.

Board: 5 MDs, 1 DO, 1 public member

Board Address: Medical Licensing Board of Indiana, Kristen Kelley, Executive Board Director, 402 W. Washington Street, Room W072, Indianapolis, IN 46204 Phone (317) 234-2060

Osteopathic Member: Kirk Masten, DO

Website: [www.in.gov/pla/medical.htm](http://www.in.gov/pla/medical.htm)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

License Fee: \$250

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: By endorsement on the basis of unlimited license, if equivalent to Indiana exam or passing National Boards - personal interview and/or SPEX may be required.

Special Licenses: Temporary Medical Permit (TMP) for postdoctoral training - \$100; renewal fee - \$50

Re-registration: Biennial, June 30, odd years - \$200

CME Requirements: None

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## IOWA

Educational Requirements: Diploma issued after May 10, 1963, by colleges of osteopathic medicine and surgery approved by the Board, or equivalent education approved by the board. Those with diplomas issued before May 10, 1963, should write to the board.

Postgraduate Training: 1 year in post graduate training program approved by the board (2 years beginning July 1, 2006 for IMG's only)

Board: 5 MDs, 2 DOs, 3 public members

Board Address: Iowa Board of Medicine, Mark Bowden, Executive Director, 400 S.W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite C, Des Moines, IA, 50309-4686 Phone (515) 281-5171

Osteopathic Members: Greg Hoversten, DO; Michael Thompson, DO; Analisa Haberman, DO; Allen Zagoren, DO

Website: [www.medicalboard.iowa.gov](http://www.medicalboard.iowa.gov)



Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, LMCC

License Fee: \$505

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: By endorsement for license to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery with states having equal requirements - interview and/or COMVEX or SPEX may be required.

Special Licenses: Resident physician's license issued for practice in a program approved for residency training, \$205. Temporary license, \$155, issued for board approved activities.

Re-registration: Biennial, according to the month and year of birth - \$550 (online - \$450).

CME Requirement: 40 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1 required biennially, which include training for identifying and reporting abuse. For licensee who regularly provides primary health care to children: 2 hours of training in child abuse identification and reporting in the previous 5 years; for a licensee who regularly provides primary health care to adults: 2 hours of training in dependent adult abuse identification and reporting in the previous 5 years. For licensee who regularly provides primary health care to adults and children: separate courses of 2 hours each as outlined before or a combined 2 hour course that includes curricula for identifying and reporting child abuse and dependent adult abuse. Iowa-licensed physicians are required to complete 2 hours of Category 1 activity for chronic pain management and 2 hours of Category 1 activity for end-of-life care every five years. These new requirements, which became effective August 17, 2011, are for physicians who provide primary care to patients (e.g., emergency physicians, family physicians, general practice physicians, internists, neurologists, pain medicine specialists, psychiatrists.) Fees and CME pro-rated to facilitate renewal process. No formal recognition of OCC/MOC, however, physicians who certifies or re-certifies with an ABMS or AOA specialty board during the license renewal period may claim 50 Category 1 credit hours.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **KANSAS**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from approved college of osteopathic medicine.

Postgraduate Training: 1 year AOA or Board approved

Board: 5 MDs, 1 DPM, 3 DOs, 3 public members, 3 DCs

Board Address: Kansas Board of Healing Arts, Kathleen Selzler Lippert, J.D., Executive Director, 800 SW Jackson, Lower Level-Suite A Topeka, KS 66612 Phone (785) 296-7413

Osteopathic Members: Carolina M. Soria, DO; Robin D. Durrett, DO; M. Myron Leinwetter, D.O.

Website: [www.ksbha.org](http://www.ksbha.org)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX or state examination taken prior to FLEX

License Fee: \$300

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept for professional school, transcripts, diploma, residency, and score report

Reciprocity or Endorsement: SPEX may be required

Special Licenses: Temporary postgraduate permit - \$50; temporary full-practice - \$50

Re-registration: Annual, Active - \$330; Exempt or Inactive - \$150

CME Requirements: 50 hours per 1 year period, 100 hours per 2 year period, 150 hours per 3 year period. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: State requires physician to carry \$200,000 per occurrence, \$600,000 per annual aggregate.

## **KENTUCKY**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 2 years AOA or ACGME approved postgraduate training

Board: 10 MDs, 2 DOs, 3 public members

Board Address: Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, Michael S. Rodman, Executive Director, 310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B, Louisville, KY 40222 (502) 429-7150

Osteopathic Member: Boyd Buser, DO [Dean of Pikeville COM], Jay S. Grider, DO, PhD, Randall Gibson, DO, Vice President

Website: [www.kbml.ky.gov](http://www.kbml.ky.gov)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

License Fee: \$300; Graduates of Kentucky medical schools who remain in Kentucky for postgraduate training -\$175

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required

Reciprocity or Endorsement: None

Special Licenses: Temporary permits to those with an unlimited license in another state, \$75 (licensure fee required in full – must be paid online); an Institutional Practice Limited license (IP) or a Residency Training (R) license is required of all trainees in order to enter their second year of postgraduate training, \$75

Re-registration: Annual; Active - \$150 (online), \$160 (paper); Inactive - \$250

CME Requirements: 60 hours over 3 years; 30 hours must be AMA or AOA Category 1; and (2 hours must be AIDS/HIV every 10 year period.) No specific mention of OCC/MOC, however, passing a certification or recertification examination of one of the specialty boards that are members of the American Board of Medical Specialties or the AOA Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists counts for 60 credit hours.

Malpractice Insurance: Currently available to physicians in the state

## LOUISIANA

Educational Requirements: Graduation from a recognized osteopathic college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year. Those serving as interns/residents in Louisiana must register with State Board of Medical Examiners.

Board: 7 MDs

Board Address: Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, Robert Marier, MD, MHA, FACP, Executive Director, 630 Camp St, New Orleans, LA 70130 Phone (504) 568-6820

Osteopathic Member: None

Website: [www.lsbme.la.gov](http://www.lsbme.la.gov)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: USMLE, FLEX, COMLEX and NBOME

Other Requirements: Fingerprints - \$45.25; all physicians renewing their license for the FIRST time must attend a Board sponsored seminar prior to renewal. The orientation is available 4 times a year and acquaints new licensees with the Louisiana medical Practice Act, function of the Board and its rules, etc. Physicians residing and practicing in another state at the time of initial renewal are exempt.

License Fee: \$382

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required

Special Licenses: Postgraduate Year 1 Registration - \$50.

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Interview and/or SPEX may be required.

Re-registration: Annual, on or before the last day of the month in which the licensee was born - \$332

CME Requirements: 20 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1 per year. OCC/MOC not specifically addressed, but physicians who have been certified or recertified within the past year by a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties or a specialty board recognized by the AOA are exempt from CME requirements.

Malpractice Insurance: Most hospitals have established minimum malpractice coverage requirements for staff physicians.

## MAINE

Educational Requirements: DO degree received following a total of 36 months of professional study.

Postgraduate Training: 1 year, AOA or ACGME approved

Board: 6 DOs, 2 public members

Board Address: Maine Board of Osteopathic Licensure, Susan E. Strout, Executive Secretary, 142 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0142 (207) 287-2480 (207) 287-3015 fax

Osteopathic Members: Natania Piper, DO; Gary E. Palman, DO; Scott Thomas, DO; Joseph R. DeKay, DO; John F. Gaddis, DO; David Rydell, DO

Website: <http://www.maine.gov/osteo/>

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

Other Requirements: OPP is required if USMLE or FLEX was taken; Jurisprudence examination

License Fee: \$350

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: On individual basis

Special Licenses: Temporary registration for interns and residents - \$200; Locum Tenens - \$200; camp physicians - \$200; visiting instructor - \$150.

Re-registration: Biennial - \$525

CME Requirements: 100 hours of board approved CME per 2 year period; 40 hours must be AOA Category 1A for FP, FM, GP and IM. All specialists may obtain 40 hours of Category 1 CME in their specialty. OCC/MOC not recognized as substitute, but the Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine does recognize American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) specialty board certification or recertification within the 24 months preceding renewal as equivalent to 25 CME credits.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## MARYLAND

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year in program approved by accrediting organization recognized by the Maryland Board which include AOA or ACGME

Board: 13 MDs, 1 DO, 1 Physician Assistant, 6 public members

Board Address: Maryland Board of Physicians, Carole J. Catalfo, Esq., Executive Director, 4201 Patterson Ave., Fourth Floor, Baltimore, MD 21215 Phone (410) 764-4777 or (800) 492-6836

Osteopathic Member: Gary Della'Zanna, DO

Website: [www.mbp.state.md.us](http://www.mbp.state.md.us)

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: USMLE, NBME, NBOME, FLEX weighted average, FLEX components 1 and 2, achieve a passing score on all parts of the examination of any state board or the District of Columbia Board of Medicine in the United States.

License Fee: Graduates of medical schools in the U. S., its territories, Puerto Rico, and Canada - \$790; graduates of foreign medical schools - \$890 (includes foreign credentials evaluation - \$100).

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: No reciprocity.

Special Licenses: Limited permits for 1 year only for purpose of post graduate teaching.

Re-registration: Maryland licensure operates on a 24-month cycle. A physician whose last name begins with the letters A-L must renew his/her license by September 30, in even-numbered years; a physician whose last name begins with M-Z must renew his/her license by September 30, in odd-numbered years., Physician biennial license renewal - \$514

CME Requirements: A physician applying for renewal or reinstatement shall earn at least 50 credit hours of Category 1 CME during the 2 year period immediately preceding the licensee's submission of the renewal or reinstatement application. OCC/MOC not specifically mentioned, but the rules recognize participation in a program of self-instruction to prepare for an approved specialty board certification or recertification examination under the ABMS which occurs solely within the 2 years preceding the application for renewal or reinstatement, on the basis of 5 hours of study equals 1 hour of CME Category I credit up to a maximum of 10 credit hours.

Malpractice Insurance: Physicians licensed in Maryland may obtain coverage from commercial insurance

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

Educational Requirements: 4 years of not less than 32 weeks each in a legally chartered medical school.

Postgraduate Training: 2 years AOA or ACGME approved program or accredited Canadian program for US and Canadian graduates; 3 years for international medical graduates

Board: 5 MDs, 2 public members

Board Address: Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine, Stancel M. Riley, Jr., MD, MPH, MPA, Executive Director, 200 Harvard Mill Square, Suite 330, Wakefield, MA 01880 Phone (781) 876-8200

Osteopathic Member: None

Website: [www.mass.gov/massmedboard](http://www.mass.gov/massmedboard)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

Other Requirements: Criminal background checks

License Fee: \$600

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): The Board accepts the FCVS for verification of core credentials which includes medical school (for primary source), postgraduate training, examination scores and ECFMG verification

Reciprocity or Endorsement: No

Special Licenses: Limited registration for fellows, interns, and medical officers - \$100. Temporary registration limited to three (issued for no more than 8 months at a time) a physician to: 1) substitute for a registered physician, 2) to get CME credits, or 3) as a faculty appointment at a teaching hospital - \$250.

Re-registration: Biennial - \$600

CPD Requirements: 100 hours per 2 year period - 40 hours must be AOA or AMA Category 1 and should include 10 hours of risk management (4 hours Category 1 and 6 hours Category 2) and the remaining 60 hours can be Category 2. Applicants who prescribe controlled substances shall complete at least three (3) credits of Board-approved CPD and may be used towards the required ten (10) credits of risk management training. OCC/MOC not recognized as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: State requires physician to carry \$100,000 per occurrence, \$300,000 per annual aggregate.

Special Note: As a condition of granting or renewing a license, any physician who agrees to treat Medicare patients cannot charge more than the Medicare allowed amount for that treatment.

## **MICHIGAN**

Educational Requirements: 4 years in AOA approved osteopathic college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year AOA approved rotating internship for those matriculating after October 1, 1956. Any applicant who has not completed an AOA approved internship must apply to the AOA for approval of first year of the ACGME residency for educational equivalence. The AOA must submit a letter to the board verifying the program's approval.

Board: 7 DOs, 3 public members, 1 PA

Board Address: Michigan Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, Patty Marsh, Processor, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909 Phone (517) 335-0918

Osteopathic Members: Steven A. Acker, DO; Peter T. McAndrews, III, DO; Dennis W. Dobritt, DO; David P. Walters; William C. Cunningham, DO; Charles E. Kelly, DO; Susan C. Sevensma, DO

Website: [www.michigan.gov/healthlicense](http://www.michigan.gov/healthlicense)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX or NBOME for initial licensure will be accepted for endorsement so long as applicant has passed an examination that tested the applicant on subjects substantially equivalent to subjects tested in Michigan in the same year.

License Fee: \$150

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: By endorsement with all states with substantially equivalent criteria

Special Licenses: Limited License, Interns and Residents - \$170 with Controlled Substance License; Controlled Substance License - \$85

Re-registration: Triennial, December 31 - \$285, Controlled Substance - \$225 (delinquent penalty fee - \$20)

CME Requirements: 150 hours over 3 years - 60 hours must be AOA Category 1A or 1B and a maximum of 90 hours of Category 2. OCC/MOC not recognized as substitute, but the Michigan Board of Medicine recognizes specialty board certification and recertification as

a category 1 CME activity. A maximum of 50 credit hours may be earned for taking and passing a specialty board recertification or certification examination approved by the board. Credit may be earned only during the year in which the licensee is advised that he or she passed the certification or recertification examination.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **MINNESOTA**

Educational Requirements: Degree from osteopathic college recognized by the Board

Postgraduate Training: 1 year in graduate clinical medical training in a program accredited by the AOA or ACGME, or other graduate training approved by the Board.

Board: 10 MDs, 1DO, 5 public members

Board Address: Minnesota Board of Medical Practice, Robert A. Leach, JD, Executive Director, 2829 University Ave SE, Suite 500, Minneapolis, MN 55414-3246 Phone (612) 617-2130

Osteopathic Member: Joseph Willett, DO

Website: [www.bmp.state.mn.us](http://www.bmp.state.mn.us)

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, LMCC

Other Requirements: Interview

License Fee: application fee - \$200; annual registration fee - \$192 (total fee - \$392)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Accepted but not required

Reciprocity or Endorsement: With similar boards in states where license issued by examination with grade not less than 75 - SPEX will be required if physician is not currently board certified and has not taken a licensing examination within the last 10 years.

Special Licenses: Temporary permits for those seeking licensure by reciprocity or as diplomats of National Board, good until next board meeting, \$60. Residency permits for physicians in residency programs. Telemedicine registration is available to physicians providing telemedicine services from another state.

Re-registration: Annual, month of birth - \$192

CME Requirements: 75 hours per 3 year period - must be AOA or AMA Category 1; OCC/MOC accepted in lieu of CME requirements.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **MISSISSIPPI**

Educational Requirements: Diploma from a college approved by AOA

Postgraduate Training: 1 year AOA or ACGME

Board: 7 MDs, 2 DOs, 3 Public Members

Board Address: Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure, H. Vann Craig, MD, Executive Director, 1867 Crane Ridge Drive, Suite 200-B, Jackson, MS 39216 Phone (601) 987-3079

Osteopathic Member: William Mayo, DO; Rickey L. Chance, DO

Website: <http://www.msbml.state.ms.us/>

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME (taken after Feb. 13, 1973), USMLE, FLEX

Other Requirements: Interview, background check, jurisprudence examination

License Fee: \$550 (online); \$600 (paper)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: All states with equal requirements. SPEX may be required - exam given by the FSMB.

Special Licenses: Temporary licenses issued under extreme conditions by examination/reciprocity.

Re-registration: Annual - \$200

CME Requirements: 40 hours biennially every 2 years of AOA Category 1A or AMA Category 1. OCC/MOC not recognized as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Required. Must provide proof of malpractice insurance with a minimum of \$1 million dollars in coverage.

## **MISSOURI**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year for graduates of AOA approved schools

Board: 6 MDs, 1 DOs, 1 public member

Board Address: Missouri State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts, Connie Clarkston, Executive Director, 3605 Missouri Blvd., Jefferson City, MO 65109 Phone (573) 751-0098

Osteopathic members: James A. DiRenna, DO

Website: [www.pr.mo.gov/healingarts.asp](http://www.pr.mo.gov/healingarts.asp)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

Other Requirements: Medical jurisprudence examination

License Fee: \$300

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: With states granting equal practice rights, at the board's discretion.

Special Licenses: Temporary permits for interns, residents, fellows - \$30

Re-registration: Annual, January 31 - \$135. All physicians with Missouri licenses must renew by January 31 of each year.

CME Requirements: 50 hours biennially in AOA Category 1A and/or 2A, or AMA Category 1. OCC/MOC not specifically addressed, but a licensee who obtained American Specialty Board certification or recertification during the reporting period shall be deemed to have obtained the required hours of CME.

Malpractice Insurance: A physician or surgeon on the medical staff of any hospital in a county that has a population of more than 75,000 people must (as a condition to his/her admission to or retention on the hospital medical staff) have a medical malpractice insurance policy of at least \$500,000. These requirements do not apply to physicians or surgeons who limit their practice exclusively to patients seen or treated at the hospital and are insured exclusively under the hospital's insurance policy or the hospital's self-insurance program.

## **MONTANA**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from a school accredited by the AOA, ACGME, AMA

Postgraduate Training: Prior to October 1, 2001: 1 year, approved by AOA, ACGME, or the Board; on or after October 1, 2001: 2 years of postgraduate training

Board: 1DO, 5 MDs, 1 DPM, 1 PA-C, 1 RD, 2 Public Members, 1 Volunteer EMT, 1 L.Ac

Board Address: Montana Board of Medical Examiners, Ian Marquand, Executive Director, PO Box 200513, Helena, MT 59620-0513 Phone (406) 841-2360

Osteopathic Member: Bruce Hayward, DO

Website: [www.medicalboard.mt.gov](http://www.medicalboard.mt.gov)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, LMCC.

License Fee: new application fee - \$325; Active - \$400; Inactive - \$200

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: For unlimited license, with all states having similar requirements, if DO graduated after 1955. At the discretion of the Board, may require additional written (SPEX) or oral examination. Personal appearance before the Board may be required. Statute below:

37-3-306. Physician's license -- examination -- reciprocity and endorsement. (1) The board may authorize the department to issue to an applicant a physician's license, license by reciprocity, or license by endorsement only on the basis of:

(a) certification of record or other certificate of examination issued to or for the applicant by the national board of medical examiners or successors, by the federation licensing examination committee or successors, by the national board of examiners for osteopathic physicians and surgeons, incorporated, or by the medical council of Canada or successors if the applicant is a graduate of a Canadian medical school that has been approved by the medical council of Canada or successors, certifying that the applicant has passed an examination given by this board; or

(b) a valid, unsuspended, and unrevoked license or certificate issued to the applicant on the basis of an examination by an examining board under the laws of another state or territory of the United States or of the District of Columbia or of a foreign country whose licensing standards at the time the license or certificate was issued were, in the judgment of the board, essentially equivalent to those of this state for granting a license to practice medicine, if under the scope of the license or certificate the applicant was authorized to practice medicine in the other state, territory, or country.

(2) An applicant who applies for a license on the basis of an examination and fails the examination may not be granted a license based on credentials from another state, territory, or foreign country or on a certificate issued by the national board of medical examiners or successors, by the federation licensing examination committee or successors, or by the medical council of Canada or successors.

(3) The board may adopt reciprocity or endorsement requirements current with changes in standards in the practice of medicine.

(4) The board may, in the case of an applicant for admission by reciprocity or endorsement, require a written or oral examination of the applicant.

(5) A holder of the degree of doctor of osteopathy granted in 1955 or before may not be licensed without taking and passing the examination given by the department, subject to [37-1-101](#). A holder of the degree of doctor of osteopathy granted after 1955 must be licensed in the same manner as provided in this section for physicians.

Special Licenses: Temporary license (at discretion of the Board – 1 year maximum); Telemedicine license

Re-registration: Bi-annual, March 31 - \$400

CME Requirements: None

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **NEBRASKA**

Educational Requirements: Graduation after January 1, 1963, approved by the American Osteopathic Association Bureau of Professional Education, or prior to January 1963 upon Board approval.

Postgraduate Training: 1 year at an AOA or ACGME approved program.

Board: 5 MDs, 1 DO, 2 public members

Board Address: Nebraska Board of Medicine and Surgery, Becky Wisell, Executive Director, PO Box 94986, Lincoln, NE 68509 Phone (402) 471-2118

Osteopathic Member: Judith A. Scott, DO

Website: [www.dhhs.ne.gov](http://www.dhhs.ne.gov)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX



License Fee: \$300

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): No, requires direct source verification.

Reciprocity or Endorsement: For applicants who took a state board, upon Board approval

Special Licenses: None

Re-registration: Biennial, even numbered years, October 1 - \$121

CME Requirements: 50 hours Category 1 every 2 years, approved by AOA or ACCME. OCC/MOC not recognized as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required, but requires mandatory reporting of cancelled professional liability insurance, or the decision not to carry professional liability insurance.

## **NEVADA**

Educational Requirements: DO degree from college requiring actual attendance of 36 months, and offering courses specified in the statute.

Postgraduate Training: Prior to January 1, 1995: 1 year internship; after January 1 1995: 3 years of ACGME or AOA postgraduate training. A DO who is enrolled in a postgraduate training program in Nevada can receive an unlimited license to practice medicine after completion of 24 months of the program in this state and has committed, in writing, that he/she will complete the program.

Board: 5 DOs, 2 public members

Board Address: Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, Barbara Longo, Interim Executive Director, 901 American Pacific Drive, Unit 180, Henderson, NV 89014 Phone (702)732-2147 ext. 223, Fax (702)732-2079

Osteopathic Members: Ronald Hedger, DO; Samir Pancholi, DO; James Anthony, DO; Richard Almaguer; Thomas Naegele, DO

Website: [www.bom.nv.gov](http://www.bom.nv.gov)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

Other Requirements: Criminal background check (fingerprints) and interview

License Fee: application and initial fee- \$670 (DO), \$470 (PA)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required

Reciprocity or Endorsement: No reciprocity; we have license by endorsement.

Special Licenses: For residents

Re-registration: Annual, January 1 - \$500 (DO), \$400 (PA), \$200 (Residents); Inactive - \$200

CME Requirements: 35 hours AOA, AMA or ACCME per year with a minimum of 10 hours completed in Category 1 or 1A. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Physicians licensed and actively practicing in Nevada must carry professional liability insurance in an amount of \$1,000,000 per person/\$3,000,000 per occurrence (not required by law).

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Educational Requirements: DO degree from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 2 years of formal postgraduate training at an institution accredited by the ACGME, the AOA, or its equivalent

Board: 5 MDs, 1 DO, 1 PA, 3 Public Members, the Commissioner or the Medical Director of the Dept. of Health and Human Services, or in the case of a vacancy in the Office of Medical Director, the Commissioner shall appoint a designee

Board Address: New Hampshire Board of Medicine, Kathryn Bradley, Executive Director, 2 Industrial Park Dr., Suite 8, Concord, NH 03301 Phone (603) 271-1203

Osteopathic Member: John H. Wheeler, DO

Website: [www.nh.gov/medicine](http://www.nh.gov/medicine)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: NBME, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, LMCC

License Fee: \$300

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Reviewed on an individual basis

Special Licenses: Locum Tenens - \$150

Re-registration: Biennial, June 30 - \$350

CME Requirements: Proof at every biennial license renewal that the licensee has completed 100 hours of approved CME within the preceding 2 years. OCC/MOC accepted, as licensees who show proof of being up to date on a program of maintenance of certification by the physician's specialty organization, deemed adequate by the board, shall be considered to have completed their continuing medical education requirement for the preceding 2 years.

Malpractice Insurance: State law requires a consortium of companies to provide malpractice insurance to physicians in the state. It is not required for licensure.

## **NEW JERSEY**

Educational Requirements: 4 years in board approved osteopathic college

Postgraduate Training: Graduated from medical school prior to July 1, 2003: 1 year AOA or ACGME-approved program; graduated after July 1, 2003: 2 years of AOA or ACGME approved postgraduate training and has signed a contract for a 3<sup>rd</sup> year (2 years must be in the same field or would, when considered together, be credited toward the criteria for certification by a single specialty board recognized by ABMS or AOA).

Board: 11 MDs, 2 DOs, 1 DPM, 1 lab director, 1 government member, 1 PA, 1 CNM, 3 public members, State Commissioner of Health



Board Address: New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners, William V. Roeder, JD, Executive Director, P.O. Box 183 Trenton, NJ 08625-0183 Phone (609) 826-7100

Osteopathic Members: George Scott, DO, DPM

Website: <http://www.state.nj.us/lps/ca/bme/index.html>

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, individual state licensing examinations taken prior to December 31, 1972

License Fee: \$610

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Applicants must start at beginning of application process. Interview may be required.

Special Licenses: None

Re-registration: Biennial, July 1 - \$580 if paid during 1<sup>st</sup> year of a biennial renewal period; \$290 in 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a biennial renewal period

CME Requirements: 100 hours of CME credits during each biennial license renewal cycle, with 40 of which being category 1 credits.

OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Physicians are required to show proof of carrying medical liability insurance. They are required to carry \$1,000,000/occurrence and \$3,000,000/year, and also to carry tail end coverage of \$500,000. Licensure applicants are required to provide the medical board a letter of credit from the insurer, and the law imposes penalties for those who don't. Certain exemptions are made for military physicians and temporary out of state physicians.

## **NEW MEXICO**

Educational Requirements: Graduate of an AOA approved medical school of osteopathic medicine and surgery

Postgraduate Training: 1 year AOA or ACGME accredited internship program.

Board: 3 DOs, 2 public members

Board Address: New Mexico Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, Martha L. Gallegos, Board Administrator, 2550 Cerrillos Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Santa Fe NM 87505 Phone (505) 476-4629 Fax (505) 476-4665

Osteopathic Members: William Barkman, DO; Jeremy Edmonds, DO; James Baum, DO

Website: <http://www.rld.state.nm.us/Osteopathy/index.html>

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

License Fee: \$400

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept, highly recommends

Reciprocity or Endorsement: All states having requirements equal to or greater than New Mexico. Need to meet all state requirements.

Special Licenses: Temporary permits granted until next meeting of the Board; osteopathic physician assistants

Re-registration: Annual, on or before July 1 - \$200

CME Requirements: 75 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1 per 3 year period or active membership in AOA or certification or re-certification by a specialty board during the 3 year cycle or Passage of the SPEX with a score of 75, during the 3 year cycle. OCC/MOC not specifically addressed, however, physicians can satisfy CME requirements by completing certification or re-certification by a specialty board during the three year cycle.

Malpractice Insurance: State law requires a screening panel to review all liability suits and report to central disciplining board. Patients can collect maximum of \$200,000 from physician, \$600,000 total in liability action. Patient Compensation Fund pays the difference. Statute requires \$200,000 policy or at least \$600,000 in cash on file if provider wants protection of other provisions of the Medical Malpractice Act.

## **NEW YORK**

Educational Requirements: Pre-professional education consists of satisfactory completion of 60 semester hours of college study from a New York State registered program or the equivalent as determined by the NYSED. Evidence of professional education may be: (1) satisfactory completion of a medical program registered by the NYSED as licensure-qualifying or accredited by the AOA or the LCME and have received the degree of MD, DO, or the equivalent, if graduating from a registered or accredited medical program, or (2) satisfactory completion of no less than 32 months in a medical program recognized as an acceptable educational program for physicians by the appropriate civil authorities of the country in which the school is located and have received the degree of MD, DO, or the equivalent as determined by the licensure department and a satisfactory proficiency examination, such as the Educational Commission for Foreign Graduates (ECFMG) certification, if graduating from a non-accredited medical program.

Postgraduate Training: If graduating from a registered or accredited medical program, at least 1 year of postgraduate hospital training in an accredited residency program approved by the ACGME, the AOA, or the RCPSC; if graduating from a non-accredited medical program, at least 3 years of postgraduate hospital training in an accredited residency program approved by the 3 organizations listed above

Board: 2 DOs, 20 MDs, 2 PAs, 2 public members

Board Address: New York State Board for Medicine, Walter Ramos, RN, JD, Executive Secretary, 89 Washington Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, West Wing, Albany, NY 12230 Attn: Medical Processing Unit Phone (518) 474-3817 ext. 560

Osteopathic Members: Licensing Board: Margaret H. Ormanoski, DO; Jerry Ray Balentine, DO – Professional Medical Conduct Board: Paul F. Twist, Jr., DO; Donald H. Teplitz, DO; Robert J. Corona, Jr., DO; Steven I. Sherman, DO

Website: <http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/>

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: NBOME/COMLEX, NBME, USMLE, FLEX

License Fee: \$735 (includes license fee and first registration)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required for graduates of non LCME or AOA accredited or board approved medical schools

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Yes, at the discretion of the board in limited circumstances

Special Licenses: Limited Permits to practice under the supervision of a New York State licensed and currently registered physician and only in a general hospital, nursing home, state operated psychiatric, developmental or alcohol treatment center, or incorporated, nonprofit institution for the treatment of the chronically ill - \$105; 3 year limited license, and waiver of the citizenship/permanent residence requirement, in exchange for the physician's service in a medically underserved area of New York State

Re-registration: Biennial - \$600

CME Requirements: None

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

Educational Requirements: Except for graduates of foreign medical schools, applicants must have graduated from a medical school accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or the Committee for the Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools.

Postgraduate Training: 1 year

Board: 7 MDs; 1 who is either a DO, a full-time NC medical school faculty member who utilizes integrative medicine in that person's clinical practice, or a member of The Old North State Medical Society; 3 public members; 1 PA or nurse practitioner

Board Address: North Carolina Medical Board, R. David Henderson, Executive Director, PO Box 20007, Raleigh, NC 27619 Phone (919) 326-1100 or (800) 253-9653

Osteopathic Member: Barbara E Walker, DO

Website: <http://www.ncmedboard.org/>

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, NBME, LMCC, state board written exam

Other Requirements: Physicians who have been out of clinical practice for 2 or more years may be required to develop a "re-entry" plan as part of their application.

License Fee: \$388 (includes criminal background record check fee - \$38)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required for IMGs and anyone with a completed FCVS profile

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Must possess a valid and unrestricted license to practice medicine in another state based on an examination testing general medical knowledge or passed an examination for license testing general medical knowledge (examination determined by the Board to be equivalent to the Board's examination). Original certification of passing scores must be provided to the Board from the examination source. Interview may be required. SPEX may be required. Certification or re-certification from a specialty board recognized by ABMS or AOA within the last 10 years may exempt applicant from taking the SPEX.

Special Licenses: Resident's Training License - \$138; Medical School Faculty License - \$188; Retired Volunteer - no fee; Special Purpose - \$388; Ltd Volunteer - no fee. All licensure fees include criminal background record check fee - \$38.

Re-registration: Annual, within 30 days of birth date - \$175

CME Requirements: 60 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1 every 3 years; note: AOA/ABMS certification and OCC/MOC accepted in lieu of CME requirements.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required, but mandated reporting to the Board of any damage award or settlement of a malpractice claim within 30 days of such award or settlement.

## **NORTH DAKOTA**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an osteopathic college located in the United States

Postgraduate Training: 1 year in approved AMA, CMA, or AOA postgraduate training program.

Board: 9 MDs, 1 DO, 1 PA, 2 public members

Board Address: North Dakota State Board of Medical Examiners, Duane Houdek, JD, Executive Secretary, 418 E. Broadway, Suite 12, Bismarck, ND 58501 Phone (701) 328-6500

Osteopathic Member: Vacancy

Website: [www.ndbomex.com](http://www.ndbomex.com)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, and state written exams

License Fee: \$200 plus criminal background check fee - \$44.50 (total fee - \$244.50)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: None

Special Licenses: Temporary permits pending possible interview before the Board (only after application process is complete). Locum Tenens permits for period not to exceed 3 months.

Re-registration: Annual, December 31 for names A-L, June 30 for names M-Z - \$205 (online); \$250 (paper)

CME Requirements: 60 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1 per 3 year reporting period. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## OHIO

Educational Requirements: Diploma from AOA approved osteopathic college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year, AOA or ACGME-approved

Board: 7 MDs, 1 DO, 1 DPM, 3 public members

Board Address: State Medical Board of Ohio, Kimberly C. Anderson, Interim Executive Director, 30 E. Broad Street, 3rd Floor, Columbus, OH 43215-6127 Phone (614) 466-3934

Osteopathic Member: Anita M. Steinbergh, DO

Website: [www.med.ohio.gov](http://www.med.ohio.gov)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

License Fee: \$335

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required

Reciprocity or Endorsement: At discretion of board

Special Licenses: Initial Training Certificates for interns, residents, and fellows in approved programs - \$75; renewal - \$35; Special Activity Certificate - \$125; Visiting Medical Faculty Certificate - \$375; Telemedicine Certificate - \$335; Volunteer's Certificate – no fee.

Re-registration: Biennial and staggered according to last name - \$305

CME Requirements: 100 hours over 2 year period; at least 40 hours must be AOA Category 1 with the remaining 60 hours in Category 1 or 2. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required, but must provide patients with a written notice of the physician's lack of insurance coverage prior to providing the patient with nonemergency care.

## OKLAHOMA

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an osteopathic college that is accredited by the Bureau of Professional Education of the American Osteopathic Association.

Postgraduate Training: Completion of a 1 year AOA-approved rotating internship or its equivalent thereof, in an accredited internship or residency program acceptable to the Board. If an applicant has completed an ACGME accredited residency training program and become specialty board eligible or attained specialty board certification, the Board may consider this standing as equivalent training.

Board: 6 DOs, 2 public members

Board Address: Oklahoma Board of Osteopathic Examiners, Deborah J. Bruce, JD, Executive Director, 4848 N Lincoln Blvd, Suite 100, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3321 Phone (405)528-8625, fax (405)557-0653

Osteopathic Members: Carl B. Pettigrew, DO; Jay D. Cunningham, DO; Dennis J. Carter, DO; Gordon P. Laird, DO; LeRoy E. Young, DO; C. Michael Ogle, DO

Website: [www.osboe.ok.gov](http://www.osboe.ok.gov)

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME

Other Requirements: Jurisprudence examination

License Fee: \$575

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: With states having equal requirements, at the discretion of the Board - interview may be required.

Special Licenses: None

Re-registration: Annual, July 1 - \$225 (in-state); \$150 (out-of-state)

CME Requirements: 16 hours per year in AOA Category 1 A or B, 1 hour of which every other year must be in the area of proper prescribing of controlled dangerous substances. OCC/MOC not accepted substitute, however, the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision does accept specialty board certification or recertification that was obtained during the three year reporting period, by an ABMS specialty board.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## OREGON

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year AOA or ACGME, as approved by Board

Board: 7 MDs, 2 DOs, 1 DPM, 2 public members

Board Address: Oregon Medical Board, Kathleen Haley, JD, Executive Director, 1500 SW 1st Avenue, Suite 620, Portland, OR 97201-5847 Phone (971) 673-2700

Osteopathic Members: Katherine L. Fisher, DO; Ralph A. Yates, DO

Website: [www.oregon.gov/OMB](http://www.oregon.gov/OMB)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

Other Requirements: Board is authorized to conduct nationwide criminal records background check and fingerprints on applicants and licensees.

License Fee: \$375

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: No reciprocity. Endorsement requests on an individual basis. Please call first. Filing deadline for reciprocity/endorsement 60 days prior to quarterly meeting dates. Interview and/or SPEX may be required.

Special Licenses: A Limited License, Special may be considered when application is complete, with no derogatory information; issued between quarterly Board meetings - \$185. However, now, since completed applications do not have to wait until the next Board meeting to be approved, there is little needed for a Limited License Special.

Re-registration: Biennial - \$464

CME Requirements: 60 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1 every two years; note: 15 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1 every two years for OCC/MOC compliant applicants

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **PENNSLVANIA**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from board approved osteopathic college meeting statutory criteria

Postgraduate Training: 1 year AOA approved rotating internship

Board: 6 DOs, 2 public members, 1 respiratory care practitioner or PA, or a certified athletic trainer, Commissioner of Professional & Occupational Affairs, Secretary of Health

Board Address: Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, Tammy Dougherty, Administrator, PO Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA 17105 Phone (717) 783-4858

Osteopathic Members: Rohit K. Agrawal, DO; Elena Farrrel, DO; Frank Tursi, DO; Maria DeMario Liney, DO; Jeffrey Heebner, DO; Burton T. Mark, DO

Website: [www.dos.state.pa.us/ost](http://www.dos.state.pa.us/ost)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, FLEX

Other Requirements: Examination in OMT required for licensure, fee \$215. Deadline date for application, 60 days prior to examination. Effective March 29, 2006, DOs who have passed COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE, the Osteopathic Clinical Skills Examination, are now exempt from taking the state board's OMT examination. Effective March 12, 2008 the Board addressed the issue of whether an applicant for licensure would be required to complete the OMT examination if applicant had already successfully completed an osteopathic board certification examination, that included an OMT component or who already successfully completed an OMT examination as a requirement for another state license. The applicants would be deemed to have met the Board's OMT examination requirement if the applicant can provide proof to the Board that he/she has completed an osteopathic certification examination that included an OMT component or provide proof that the applicant completed an OMT examination as a requirement for another state license. The Board will review these requests on a case-by-case basis.

License Fee: \$45; Applicants requiring the state board's OMT examination: first time OMT examination fee - \$215 (includes a one time, non-refundable Board fee - \$45). Repeat examination fee - \$170 (additional state board's OMT examination information and application available on Professional Credential Services (testing agency web site at [www.pcshq.com](http://www.pcshq.com)) Applicants not required to complete the state board's OMT examination fee - \$45

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): No, requires direct source verification.

Reciprocity or Endorsement: By endorsement with states having equal requirements, provided applicant has not previously failed a Pennsylvania written examination. All applications reviewed on an individual basis.

Special Licenses: Graduate training license, no moonlighting. Renewable 1 year temporary licenses for interns and residents in board approved programs - \$25. Short-term camp physician license may be granted to an osteopathic physician licensed in good standing in another state or Canada. Physician must obtain malpractice insurance as proscribed by state laws. Certification Physician Assistant, Respiratory Therapist, Acupuncturist & Athletic Trainers. Registration supervising physicians.

Re-registration: Biennial, before October 31 of every even-numbered year - \$220

CME Requirements: Completion of 100 credit hours of continuing medical education in the preceding 2 year period, which runs from November 1 of the even year through October 31 of the next even year. At least 20 of the 100 credit hours must be completed in AOA Category 1-A activities. At least 12 credit hours shall be completed in Category 1 or 2 approved activities in the area of patient safety/risk management. The remaining credit hours shall be completed in any Category 1 or Category 2 approved activities. OOC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Physicians conducting more than 50% of their practice in state must carry insurance with limits of \$500,000 per occurrence/\$1,500,000 per annual aggregate in compliance with the professional liability insurance requirements under 711 of the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act No. 13 of 2002.

## **RHODE ISLAND**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from AOA accredited osteopathic college

Postgraduate Training: Two years in hospital or equivalent postgraduate training approved by AOA or ACGME

Board: 4 MDs; 2 DOs; 5 Public members, one of whom is an attorney with experience as plaintiff's counsel in the presentation or prosecution of medical malpractice matters, and one of whom is a member of the general public, not associated with the medical field, who is at least 60 years of age; 1 hospital administrator; director of RI Dept of Health

Board Address: Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline, James McDonald, MD, MPH, Chief Administrative Officer, Three Capitol Hill, Room 205, Providence, RI 02908-5097 Phone (401) 222-3855 Fax (401) 222-2158

Osteopathic Members: Stephen Fanning, DO; James F. Griffin, DO

Website: [www.health.ri.gov/hsr/bmld](http://www.health.ri.gov/hsr/bmld)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, LMCC

Other Requirements: OPP may be required if USMLE or FLEX is presented for licensure; interview.

License Fee: \$570

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Full application process

Special Licenses: Limited licenses for training, intern, resident, fellow - \$40

Re-registration: Biennial, July 1 - \$650

CME Requirements: 40 hours of Category 1 per 2 year period, 2 hours of which must be concerning universal precautions, infection control, modes of transmission, bioterrorism, OSHA and other regulatory requirements. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Requires proof of liability insurance, but does not specify a particular amount.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

Educational Requirements: Graduated from a school of osteopathic medicine accredited by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA).

Postgraduate Training: 1 year, as approved by the Board

Board: 7 MDs, 2 DOs (one permanently designated seat), 1 public member

Board Address: South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation, Board of Medical Examiners, Rion Alvey, Interim Board Administrator; PO Box 11289, Columbia, SC 29211 (street address: 110 Centerview Dr. Suite 202, Columbia, SC 29210) Phone (803) 896-4500

Osteopathic Members: Timothy J. Kowalski, DO; James L. Hubbard, DO

Website: [www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Medical](http://www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Medical)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

License Fee: \$580

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Interview required – SPEX or COMVEX may be required.

Special Licenses: Temporary License - \$75 per quarter; Limited License - \$150 per fiscal year.

Re-registration: Biennial renewal - \$160; Academic License - \$150; 14 day Limited License - \$75; Special Volunteer Limited License - no fee.

CME Requirements: 40 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1 CME every 2 years. OCC/MOC not addressed, but the Board recognizes as equivalent to CME requirements certification of added qualifications or recertification after examination by a national specialty board recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties or American Osteopathic Association or another approved specialty board certification.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Educational Requirements: Primary source verification from a Board approved AOA program

Postgraduate Training: Applicants as of July 1, 1987 must successfully complete an approved residency program in its entirety which would be no less than 3 years.

Board: 6 MDs, 1 DO, 2 non-physician members

Board Address: South Dakota Board of Medical and Osteopathic Examiners, Margaret B. Hansen, Executive Director 101 N. Main Avenue, Suite 301, Sioux Falls, SD 57104 Phone (605) 367-7781 Fax (605) 367-7786

Osteopathic Member: Brent Lindbloom, DO

Website: <http://www.sdbmoe.gov>

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

License Fee: \$200

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Highly recommended

Reciprocity or Endorsement: None

Special Licenses: None

Re-registration: Annual, Prior to March 1 - \$200, renewal application fee - \$200 (No grace period is provided. Licenses are statutorily forfeited when not renewed by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year)

CME Requirements: None required for renewal license

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **TENNESSEE**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from recognized osteopathic college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year AOA or ACGME training

Board: 5 DOs, 1 Public member

Board Address: Tennessee Board of Osteopathic Examination, Rosemarie Otto, Executive Director, 227 French Landing, Suite 300, Heritage Place, MetroCenter, Nashville, TN 37343 Phone (800)778-4123 ext 24384

Osteopathic Members: Jill Robinson, DO; Jeffrey L. Hamre, DO; Donald H. Polk, DO; Karen R. Shepherd, DO; Jack G. Pettigrew, DO



Website: <http://health.state.tn.us/Boards/Osteo/>

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME for initial or reciprocal licensure - USMLE and FLEX accepted for reciprocity only

License Fee: non-refundable application fee - \$410

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: On an individual basis with any other state

Special Licenses: Training license for osteopathic interns, residents and fellows. Dean of program must submit application to the board.

Re-registration: Biennial, according to birth year - \$385

CME Requirements: 40 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1-A and 2-A every 2 years. 1 of the 40 hours shall be a course designed specifically to address prescribing practices. Providers of intractable pain management must have specialized CME in pain management (AOA 1-A or 2-A). OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Requires proof of liability insurance, but does not specify a particular amount.

## **TEXAS**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from college approved by the board at the time DO or MD degree conferred.

Postgraduate Training: 1 year for U.S./Canada graduates

Board: 9 MDs, 3 DOs, 7 public members

Board Address: Texas Medical Board, Mari Robinson, JD, Executive Director, PO Box 2018, Austin, TX 78768-2018  
Phone (512) 305-7010

Osteopathic Members: Irvin E. Zeitler, Jr, DO; James "Scott" Holliday, DO; Robert Simonson, DO

Website: [www.tmb.state.tx.us](http://www.tmb.state.tx.us)

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, (state examinations before 1977)

Other Requirements: Medical jurisprudence exam (tests on medical laws in Texas)

License Fee: \$1002

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: None – must start at the beginning of the process.

Special Licenses: Provisional License -\$107 (limited license to practice for 270 days in a medically underserved area while full application is in process). Physicians in training permit required for training if not otherwise licensed - \$212 (fee covers all training at the same institution). Changes to other institutions fee - \$141

Re-registration: Biennial - \$822

CME Requirements: 12 hours formal CME (24 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1) plus 12 hours informal per year; 1 hour of the formal ethics must be in the area of ethics and/or professional responsibility; 10 credits pain management for those who practice in a pain clinic (AOA 1-A). OCC/MOC not specifically addressed, however, a licensee shall be presumed to have complied with all CME requirements if in the preceding 36 months the licensee becomes board certified or recertified by a specialty board approved by the ABMS or the AOA.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required. However, many hospitals will require physicians to carry medical malpractice insurance in order to have hospital privileges.

## **UTAH**

Educational Requirements: Degree of DO earned from an AOA approved medical school or college

Postgraduate Training: 24 months of progressive ACGME or AOA resident training or completion of 12 months in an ACGME or AOA resident training program and continuing on in a progressive resident training program in Utah.

Board: 4 DOs; 1 public member

Board Address: Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, Noel Taxis, Bureau Manager, PO Box 146741, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6741 Phone (801) 530-6628

Osteopathic Members: Lynsey J. Drew, DO; Noel C. Nye, DO; Layne A. Hermansen, DO; Keith P. Ramsey, DO

Website: <http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/osteopathy.html>

Sunset Law: Yes

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

Other Requirements: Utah Physician Controlled Substance Examination - \$100

License Fee: \$200

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required

Reciprocity or Endorsement: By endorsement with all states

Special Licenses: No temporary permits

Re-registration: May 31, even numbered year - \$183, Controlled Substance - \$78. The renewal fee may change July 1, of any year as the legislature makes changes during the legislative session.

CME Requirements: 40 hours of AOA or ACCME Category 1 every 2 years. OCC/MOC not recognized as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **VERMONT**

Educational Requirements: Graduate of an accredited school or college of osteopathic college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year post graduate rotating internship or a 3 year residency approved by the AOA or the ACGME



Board: 3 DOs, 2 Public Members

Board Address: Vermont Board of Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons, Ronald Klein, RPh, Executive Officer, Office of Professional Regulation, One National Life Building, North, Fl2, Montpelier, VT 05620-3402 Phone (802) 828-2733

Osteopathic Members: William Cove, DO; John M. Peterson, DO; Daniel K. Wilson, DO

Website: [www.vtprofessionals.org/opr1/osteopaths](http://www.vtprofessionals.org/opr1/osteopaths)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, FLEX, USMLE

Other Requirements: If FLEX was taken, the applicant is only required to take and pass the osteopathic principles and practice (OPP) portion of the state osteopathic licensure examination

License Fee: \$500

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: With other states whose licensing requirements are substantially equivalent and if the applicant has graduated from an accredited school or a college of osteopathic medicine at the board's discretion; personal interview before the board may be required.

Special Licenses: Limited Temporary License - \$50; annual renewal fee - \$100

Re-registration: Biennial - \$750

CME Requirements: 30 hours per 2 year license renewal period - 40% must be osteopathic CME. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **VIRGINIA**

Educational Requirements: Diploma from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year of AOA or ACGME approved training required

Board: 11 MDs, 1 DO, 1 DC, 1 DPM, 4 public members at large

Board Address: Virginia Board of Medicine, William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director; 9960 Mayland Drive, #300, Richmond VA 23233-1463 Phone (804) 367-4600

Osteopathic Member: Wayne Reynolds, DO

Website: [www.dhp.virginia.gov](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

License Fee: \$302

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsements: With states having an examination equal to and must meet same requirements - interview and/or SPEX may be required.

Special Licenses: Limited, Training, Continuing Education, Summer Camp, and Volunteer in Free Clinics, Restricted Volunteer License

Re-registration: Birth month, even-numbered year - \$337 (late renewal fee - \$115)

CME Requirements: 60 hours of CME within the 2 years immediately preceding renewal. A minimum of 30 of the 60 hours shall be in Category 1. OCC/MOC not specifically addressed, but proof of recertification by a specialty board is accepted as a substitute by the Virginia Board of Medicine.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **WASHINGTON**

Educational Requirements: Diploma from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year in AOA or ACGME approved training program

Board: 6 DOs, 1 public member

Board Address: Washington State Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, Blake T. Maresh, MPA, Executive Director, PO Box 47852, Olympia, WA 98504-7852 Phone (360) 236-4945

Osteopathic Members: Catherine Hunter, DO; Shannon Markegard, DO; John Finch, DO; Peter V. Kilburn, DO, Samuel Coor, DO

Website: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/Professions/Osteopath/default.htm>

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX, state examination if substantially equivalent

Other Requirements: If applicant has taken a state exam, USMLE or FLEX, then additional OPP exam is required

License Fee: \$650

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: SPEX may be required

Special Licenses: Limited License for Post Graduate Training

Re-registration: Osteopathic physicians must renew their license every year on or before their birthday. Licensee is required to submit the appropriate fee (1-year renewal - \$650, expired license reissuance - \$262.50) and renewal card.

CME Requirements: 150 hours every 3 years; 60 hours must be in Category 1. OCC/MOC not specifically addressed, however, both the Washington State Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery and the Washington State Medical Quality Assurance Commission accept original certification or recertification by a specialty board as equivalent to the CME requirements.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required by state law but highly recommended. Available from commercial carriers in the state and the Washington State Medical Association.

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

Educational Requirements: Evidence of graduation from a medical school approved by AOA

Postgraduate Training: 1 year AOA or ACGME postgraduate clinical training. If candidate presents ACGME he or she must also present 40 hours of AOA Category 1A to include OMM and OMT.

Board: 4 DOs, 1 PA, 2 public members

Board Address: West Virginia Board of Osteopathy, Diana Shepard, Executive Director, 405 Capitol Street, Ste 402, Charleston, WV 25301 Phone (304) 558-6095

Osteopathic Members: Arthur B. Rubin, DO; Joseph Schreiber, DO; Ernest Miller, DO, 1 vacancy

Website: [www.wvbdosteo.org](http://www.wvbdosteo.org)

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME

Other Requirements: Interview

License Fee: \$400

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Does accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: If applicant has taken another state's state exam and the content is comparable to the exam previously administered by West Virginia.

Special Licenses: educational training permit - \$100

Re-registration: Biennial, July 1 - \$400 (late penalty fee - \$100)

CME Requirements: 32 hours of approved AOA CME, and at least half of the hours must be AOA Category 1. DOs renewing their license for the first time need to have 2 hours completed in the subject of end-of-life care including pain management. West Virginia Board of Medicine accepts MOC, West Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine does not accept OCC.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required

## **WISCONSIN**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from a recognized osteopathic college

Postgraduate Training: 1 year at an AOA or ACGME approved training facility

Board: 9 MDs, 1DO, 3 public members

Board Address: Wisconsin Medical Examining Board, Tom Ryan, MPA, JD, Executive Director, 1400 E. Washington St., Madison, WI 53703 Phone (608) 261-2378

Osteopathic Member: Mary Jo Capodice, DO

Website: <http://www.drl.wi.gov/>

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBME, USMLE, FLEX, LMCC (taken after 1/1/78) state board examinations taken prior to 1972

License Fee: Endorsement of National Board Certificate (NBOME & NBME), FLEX, USMLE \$150; Reciprocity of state board exam taken prior to 1972 - \$198; Endorsement of LMCC taken after January, 1978 - \$150 (all fees include \$57 jurisprudence examination). Oral exam, if required, is an additional fee of \$266

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Endorsement on individual basis; oral exam may be required.

Special Licenses: Visiting Professor License - \$216 (includes jurisprudence); camp Physician - \$216 (includes jurisprudence); Locum Tenens - \$216 (includes jurisprudence).

Re-registration: Biennial, March 1, even years - \$141

CME Requirements: 30 hours of AOA or AMA Category 1 every 2 years obtained between March 1 even year and February 28 even year. OCC/MOC not accepted as substitute.

Malpractice Insurance: Physicians must carry insurance with limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 per annual aggregate.

## **WYOMING**

Educational Requirements: Graduation from an AOA approved college

Postgraduate Training: 2 years in an AOA or ACGME accredited program

Board: 4 MDs, 0 DO, 2 public members, 1 PA

Board Address: Wyoming Board of Medicine, Kevin Bohnenblust, JD, Executive Director, 320 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200, Cheyenne WY 82002 Phone (307) 778-7053

Osteopathic Member: David Skolnick, DO

Website: <http://wyomedboard.state.wy.us>

Sunset Law: No

Examinations Accepted: COMLEX, NBOME, USMLE, FLEX

License Fee: \$600

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required

Reciprocity or Endorsement: At discretion of board, personal interview & oral examination may be required - SPEX may be required.

Special Licenses: None

Re-registration: Annual, June 30 - \$250

CME Requirements: Beginning January 1, 2007, in order to renew, reinstate or reactivate a license, physicians must complete 60 hours of

AOA Category I, Category 2, a current Physician's Recognition Award from the AMA, a current certificate from any ABMS board every 3 years. OCC/MOC not accepted, but physicians that have within the past 3 years been certified or recertified by a member board of the ABMS are exempt.

Malpractice Insurance: Not required by state law but available through the Wyoming Medical Society.

## **US TERRITORIES**

### **GUAM**

Educational Requirements: Earned DO degree - certificate of proficiency in the basic sciences is required, plus proof of not less than 1 year of training in a hospital registered and/or acceptable to the Commission on Licensure to Practice the Healing Art.

Board Address: Guam Board of Medical Examiners, Eugene Santos, Acting Administrator, Health Professional Licensing Office, 123 Chalan Kareta South Route 10 Mangilao, GU 96913-6304 Phone (671) 735-7406-11 Fax 671-735-7413

Postgraduate Training: 3 years or be ABMS Certified.

Examinations Accepted: USMLE, NBME, FLEX, SBE, LMCC, COMLEX

License Fee: Non-refundable fee - \$400- (checks or money orders should be made payable to Treasurer of Guam)

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Will accept

Reciprocity or Endorsement: Possibly granted on the basis of existing license. SPEX required unless exam taken within 10 years or been out of practice for the past 7 years.

CME Requirements: Must have completed 100 CME credits within the past 2 years (50% must be Category 1) or complete ACGME PFT within the past year

### **PUERTO RICO**

Educational Requirements: DO degree from an osteopathic college recognized by the Board of Medical Examiners

Board Address: Edificio GM Group - tercer piso, Calle Ponce de Leon #1590

Marginal Carretera No. 1, (de Rio Piedras a Caguas), Rio Piedras, PR 00926, Phone (787) 782-8989 Ext. 6582 Fax (787) 792-4436

Board Contact: Luis Harnandez, Oficial Area de Licencias Provisionales Junta de Licenciamiento y Disciplina Médica, Phone (787) 765-2929 x 6589

Postgraduate Training: 1 year approved by Board; 6 months uninterrupted residence in Puerto Rico required

Examinations Accepted: In English or Spanish, at option of applicant. USMLE \*, NBME, FLEX, NBOME, COMLEX (\* must complete USMLE step I, II and III within 7 years of passing first step.)

License Fee: \$150

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Not accepted

Reciprocity or Endorsement: For unlimited license, if granted by a US state having reciprocity with Puerto Rico. SPEX not accepted.

CME Requirements: 60 hours every 3 years; all must be Category 1

### **VIRGIN ISLANDS**

Educational Requirements: The licensing act governing the health professions in the Virgin Islands recognizes AOA approved schools.

Board Address: Virgin Islands Board of Medical Examiners, Lydia Scott, Executive Assistant, Department of Health, 48 Sugar Estate, St Thomas, VI 00802 Phone (340) 774-0117 Fax (340) 777-4001

Postgraduate training: 1 year AOA or AMA approved training

Examinations Accepted: USMLE, NBME, FLEX, SBE, LMCC, NBOME, COMLEX, SPEX required of all applicants plus oral exams must be taken in Virgin Islands, (must complete USMLE step I, II, and III within 7 years of passing the first step.)

License fee: \$800 (exam)

Reciprocity or Endorsement: None

Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS): Required

Re-registration: \$500

CME Requirements: 25 hours every year; all must be Category 1

## **NATIONAL BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS, INC**

The National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) is incorporated under the laws of the state of Indiana. It consists of not more than 25 members at-large from the osteopathic profession. Members must be osteopathic physicians in good standing of the American Osteopathic Association, educators/clinicians of recognized prominence and shall have been licensed to practice as an osteopathic physician for at least five years prior to appointment.

Board members are nominated by the directors of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, approved by the Board of Trustees of the American Osteopathic Association, and elected by the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, to serve for a period of three years.

The officers of the Board consist of a President/CEO, Chief Operations Officer, Vice President of Testing & Research and Secretary-Treasurer, selected from and elected by the membership of the Board at each spring session, and serve until their successors are qualified and elected.

The Board has established an advisory panel or test committee of content experts for each examination. These experts must be duly nominated by a member and approved by the Board. They are appointed annually to serve under the direction of the respective test construction committee chairman.

## **REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**

The Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX-USA) examination is divided into three levels. With the exception of Level 2 – PE, all parts of the exam are computer-based.

### **COMLEX-USA Level 1**

Constructed according to the COMLEX-USA examination blueprint. Candidates are expected to demonstrate basic science knowledge relevant to medical problems as defined by the Level 1 blueprint. Level 1 emphasizes the scientific concepts and principles necessary for understanding the mechanisms of health, medical problems and disease processes.

Level 1, taken in one-day, is a problem- and symptom-based assessment integrating the basic medical sciences of anatomy, behavioral science, biochemistry, microbiology, osteopathic principles, pathology, pharmacology, physiology and other areas of medical knowledge as they are relevant to solving medical problems. The examination consists of two four-hour test sessions, each containing questions related to diverse clinical presentations and principles.

### **COMLEX-USA Level 2**

COMLEX Level 2 consists of two-parts: the Cognitive Evaluation (CE) and the Performance Evaluation (PE):

#### **COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE**

Constructed according to the COMLEX-USA examination blueprint. Candidates are expected to demonstrate knowledge of clinical concepts and principles involved in all steps of medical problem-solving as defined by Dimension II. Level 2-CE emphasizes the medical concepts and principles necessary for making appropriate medical diagnoses through patient history and physical examination findings.

Level 2-CE, taken in one-day, is a problem-based and symptom-based assessment integrating the clinical disciplines of emergency medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, osteopathic principles, pediatrics, psychiatry, surgery, and other areas necessary to solve medical problems as defined by the Level 2-CE blueprint. A similar problem-symptom based approach is used in Level 2 and in Level 1. The examination consists of two four-hour test sessions, each containing questions related to diverse clinical presentations and principles.

#### **COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE**

For case selection, Level 2-PE applies the Dimension I categories from the COMLEX-USA blueprint. The content (case selection) of Level 2-PE is crossed with the following axes:

#### **Patient Presentation Axis**

Standardized patients present in simulated ambulatory medical settings with problems and symptoms that are either acute, chronic, or provide opportunities for health promotion and disease prevention. In addition, the patients encountered are balanced to meet the examination specifications for patient gender and age as a reflection of national osteopathic physician practice patterns based on national survey data as well as expert judgment. In addition, the demographic and cultural profiles of patients are instrumental considerations in the case development process.

#### **Osteopathic Medical Practice Axis**

In any examination form, the following clinical skills are evaluated in the majority of the standardized patient encounters:

#### Biomedical/Biomechanical Domain

- Osteopathic Principles and/or Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment
- History-taking and Physical Examination Skills
- Integrated Differential Diagnosis and Clinical Problem-Solving
- Written Communication and Synthesis of Clinical Findings (SOAP note format)

#### Humanistic Domain

- Physician-Patient Communication, Interpersonal Skills, and Professionalism

**Successful passage of the two distinctive domains is required to pass COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE.**

#### Clinical Content Axis

Based on Dimension I of the COMLEX-USA blueprint, expert judgment, and national survey data of osteopathic physician practice patterns, candidates will encounter standardized patients presenting with the symptoms, problems, or complaints that are common to primary care osteopathic medical practice. These include:

- Patients with Neuromusculoskeletal Symptoms/Problems
- Patients with Respiratory Symptoms/Problems
- Patients with Gastrointestinal Symptoms/Problems
- Patients with Cardiovascular Symptoms/Problems
- Patients with Other Symptoms/Problems

#### COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE

A one-day examination of clinical skills where each candidate will encounter twelve standardized patients over the course of a seven-hour examination day. The examination takes place at NBOME's National Center for Clinical Skills Testing in Conshohocken, Pennsylvania (bordering Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). Examination design, test specifications, testing format and other details are available in the *2005-2006 Orientation Guide for COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE* on the NBOME's website. A 28-minute DVD Instructional Program on COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE has been provided to the Office of the Dean at each of the Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, and is also available for viewing on NBOME's website.

Level 2-PE is the clinical skills component of the COMLEX-USA. Consistent with NBOME's mission to protect the public, Level 2-PE helps to fulfill the public and licensing authority mandate for enhanced patient safety through the documentation of the clinical skills proficiency of graduates from osteopathic medical schools. The Performance Evaluation augments the written COMLEX-USA-Level 2-CE of osteopathic medical knowledge by providing an assessment of clinical skills. These clinical skills are: doctor-patient communication, interpersonal skills and professionalism, medical history-taking and physical examination skills, osteopathic principles and osteopathic manipulative treatment, and written communication skills (including synthesis of clinical findings, integrated differential diagnosis and formulation of a diagnostic and treatment plan). These patient-centered skills are evaluated in the context of clinical encounters with standardized patients, and are required to be personally performed as appropriate in a timely, efficient, safe, and effective manner.

#### **COMLEX-USA Level 3**

Constructed according to the COMLEX-USA examination blueprint. Candidates are expected to demonstrate knowledge of clinical concepts and principles necessary for solving medical problems as independently practicing osteopathic generalist physicians.

Level 3 emphasizes the medical concepts and principles required to make appropriate patient management decisions. Level 3, taken in one-day, is a problem-based and symptom-based assessment integrating the clinical disciplines of emergency medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, osteopathic principles, pediatrics, psychiatry, surgery, and other areas necessary to solve medical problems as defined by the Level 3 blueprint.

Level 3, like Level 2-CE and Level 1, are problem-based and symptom-based in presentation. The examination consists of two four-hour test sessions, each containing questions related to diverse clinical presentations and principles.

#### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

##### **COMLEX-USA Level 1**

A candidate is eligible to take the COMLEX-USA Level 1 examination upon compliance with the following requirements:

1. Must have satisfactorily completed the first half of the second year in a medical school accredited by the American Osteopathic Association's Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (AOA COCA).
2. Must be in good standing with a medical school accredited by the AOA COCA when application for the examination is made and the examination is administered, or must have graduated from a medical school accredited by the AOA COCA.
3. Must have his or her name submitted by the office of the dean or his or her designate as eligible to test in order to register online. Alternatively, if the candidate has graduated, a notarized copy of his or her medical school diploma will be accepted.

### **COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE (Cognitive Evaluation)**

A candidate is eligible to take the COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE examination upon compliance with the following requirements:

1. Must have passed the COMLEX-USA Level 1 examination within the NBOME requirements.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed the third year in a medical school accredited by the AOA COCA.
3. Must be in good standing with a medical school accredited by the AOA COCA when application for the examination is made and the examination is administered, or must have graduated from a medical school accredited by the AOA COCA.
4. Must have his or her name submitted by the office of the dean or his or her designate as eligible to test in order to register online. Alternatively, if the candidate has graduated, a notarized copy of his or her medical school diploma will be accepted.

### **COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE (Performance Evaluation)**

Eligibility requirements to take COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE are identical to those required to take COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE (see above). However, candidates who are unsuccessful in passing COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE cannot re-take the examination for a period of 90 full days after their prior examination date, and may only re-take the examination a maximum of three times in any 12-month period.

COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE may be taken before or after COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE. Both COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE and COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE must be passed independently in order to establish eligibility for COMLEX-USA Level 3.

### **COMLEX-USA Level 3**

A candidate is eligible to take the COMLEX-USA Level 3 examination upon compliance with the following requirements:

1. Must have passed the COMLEX-USA Level 1, COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE and Level 2-PE examinations within the NBOME requirements.
2. Must have graduated from a medical school accredited by the AOA COCA with an earned D.O. degree.
3. Must be currently participating in and in good standing with an AOA Post graduate Education and Training Review Committee (PTRC) approved internship, or ACGME-approved PGY1, or must have successfully completed such an internship or program. Must submit verification from the Director of Medical Education or Program Director that the candidate is in good standing with an AOA Post graduate Education and Training Review Committee (PTRC) approved internship or ACGME-approved PGY1. Candidates who have completed an internship or program must submit a notarized copy of the internship certificate or PGY1 certificate in lieu of the verification of good standing.

As of July 1, 2004, all candidates are required to pass COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE as a condition for eligibility to take COMLEX-USA Level 3, with the exception that candidates who graduated from a college of osteopathic medicine accredited by the AOA COCA prior to January 1, 2005 will be exempt from the requirement of passing COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE if they pass COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE prior to June 30, 2005. All other COMLEX-USA Level 3 eligibility requirements remain in effect. In addition, candidates who are unsuccessful in passing COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE cannot re-take the examination for a period of 90 days from their prior examination date, and may only re-take the examination a maximum of three times in any 12-month period.

The COMLEX-USA Levels must be taken in sequence. For example Level 2 cannot be taken before Level 1. However, Level 2-CE and Level 2-PE may be taken in any sequence. If a candidate has failed the CE Examination, he or she may still choose to take the PE Examination, and if the candidate has failed the PE Examination, he or she may still take the CE Examination. Both the CE and the PE Examinations must be passed in order to take Level 3.

## **REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

### **Registration/ Scheduling**

All candidates must use the online registration system to: register/pay for an examination, schedule or reschedule an examination, cancel or withdraw from an examination; receive refunds or credits, obtain the schedule of test dates, and choose a location at which to test. It is also where the candidate will find the most current information about policies and procedures applicable to testing and other items of interest to candidates.

### **Registration Code**

After a list of candidates approved to take the COMLEX examination is received by the NBOME from the dean of an osteopathic school, an 11-digit secure code will be mailed to each candidate. This code is required only for the first access to the registration system at the NBOME website ([www.nbome.org](http://www.nbome.org)).

### **NBOME Registration**

Upon entry of the registration code, a candidate will be prompted to create a username and a password and verify personal information. Registration will be completed once payment by credit card has been entered and approved. Payment must be completed online with a credit card before an examination date can be scheduled.



### **Scheduling an Examination Date and Test Center**

Following registration at the NBOME website, a candidate may schedule an examination date (appointment) through the NBOME website. (Please note that there may be a slight delay between registering with the NBOME and the ability to schedule an examination date on the NBOME website). Candidates may register and schedule an examination as early as six (6) months in advance of a scheduled test date for COMLEX-USA Level 1, Level 2-CE, or Level 3, and up to 12 months in advance for COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE, provided that they are eligible. Candidates are strongly advised to schedule at least 90 days before their desired test session to maximize the chance of obtaining their desired testing date and site. **Candidates may not schedule a test less than 120 hours in advance of the session test date under any circumstances.**

### **COMPREHENSIVE OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL VARIABLE PURPOSE EXAMINATION - USA (COMVEX-USA)**

The COMVEX is an instrument offered to osteopathic physicians who need to demonstrate current osteopathic medical knowledge for licensing purposes. As a measurement tool, the COMVEX provides the state medical licensing boards with a clear evaluation of a candidate's knowledge of current osteopathic medical practices.

The COMVEX is available to candidates through the individual state licensing boards. The examination is created under the auspices of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners by test construction and review committees composed of a variety of osteopathic physicians from a range of medical disciplines.

### **SPECIAL PURPOSE EXAMINATION (SPEX)**

The Federation of State Medical Boards administers the Special Purpose Examination (SPEX). The purpose of SPEX is to re-examine specific physicians for whom a licensing board determines the need for a demonstration of medical knowledge. It is a one-day examination composed of multiple choice questions, which are specially selected to test physicians who are five or more years beyond medical school graduation.