

## DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE (DO)

**Licensing Authority** Amy Van Maanen  
Board of Medical Examiners  
Iowa Department of Public Health  
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**Legal Authority** Code of Iowa, Chapters 147, 148, 150-150A

**Job Description** Doctors of osteopathic medicine diagnose, prescribe for, and treat diseases of the human body, relying upon accepted medical and surgical procedures. They examine patients to determine symptoms attributable to impairments in musculoskeletal system; correct disorders and affections of bones, muscles, nerves, and other body systems by medicinal and surgical procedures and, when deemed beneficial, manipulative therapy; and, employ x-rays, drugs, and other aids to diagnose and treat bodily impairments. They may practice any of the known medical and surgical specialties.

**Education & Experience Required** An applicant must be a graduate of an approved college of osteopathic medicine and surgery and have completed one year of post-graduate training in an approved hospital in the U.S. or Canada. If a physician is a foreign medical graduate, he or she must have a current Educational Commission Foreign Medical Graduate (ECFMG) certificate. Each applicant must also have a passing score on a medical licensing examination: United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Steps 1-3, National Board, Federal Licensing Examination (FLEX), Licentiate of Medical Council of Canada (LMCC), Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Exam (COMLEX), or a state structured qualifying exam.

**Continuing Education** Forty hours of category 1 continuing education are required biennially for license renewal. A licensee who regularly provides primary health care to children (emergency physicians, family practitioners, general practice, pediatricians, and psychiatrists) must complete two hours of training in child abuse identification and reporting every five years. A licensee who regularly provides primary health care to adults (emergency physicians, family practitioners, general practice, internists, obstetricians, gynecologists, and psychiatrists) must complete two hours of training in dependent adult abuse identification and reporting every five years. For those providing primary care to children and adults, a combined two-hour course is acceptable.

**Examination** Each applicant must have a passing score on a medical licensing examination (USMLE Steps 1-3, National Board, FLEX, LMCC, COMLEX, or a state

structured qualifying exam).

**Fees** Application: \$400  
Duration: Two years  
Renewal: \$325

**SOC Code, Title, & Avg. Hourly Wage** 29-1061 – Anesthesiologists (\$49.27)  
29-1062 – Family and General Practitioners (\$57.60)  
29-1063 – Internists, General (\$54.03)  
29-1064 – Obstetricians and Gynecologists (N/A)  
29-1065 – Pediatricians, General (\$64.60)  
29-1067 – Surgeons (> \$70.00)  
29-1199 – All Other Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners (\$21.37)

**Number of Licenses Issued** Total number of licenses active as of December 31,  
2002: 1,288  
2001: 1,268  
2000: N/A

**For Additional Information** American Osteopathic Association  
Department of Public Relations  
142 E Ontario St  
Chicago IL 60611  
<http://www.am-osteop-assn.org>

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
6110 Executive Blvd Ste 405  
Rockville MD 20852  
<http://www.aacom.org>

National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners  
8765 W Higgins Rd, Ste 200  
Chicago IL 60631-4101  
Phone: (773) 714-0622  
<http://www.nbome.org>