Who Oversees Osteopathic Recognition?

The ACGME’s Osteopathic Principles Committee was delegated authority by the Board of Directors to oversee Osteopathic Recognition. The Osteopathic Principles Committee is responsible for:

- Conferring Osteopathic Recognition upon ACGME-accredited programs that have demonstrated substantial compliance with the Osteopathic Recognition Requirements, through the Osteopathic Recognition application process
- Reviewing programs with Osteopathic Recognition on a periodic basis to ensure they remain in substantial compliance with the Osteopathic Recognition Requirements
- Preparing and revising the Osteopathic Recognition Requirements

Review Process

Applications for Osteopathic Recognition do not require a site visit, and therefore may be reviewed by the Osteopathic Principles Committee at its next meeting with an open agenda, following submission. If the submitted application demonstrates substantial compliance with the Osteopathic Recognition Requirements, the program will receive a status of Initial Recognition.

Public Acknowledgement

After a program receives Osteopathic Recognition, this status is publically acknowledged on the public portion of the Accreditation Data System. Programs that have submitted an application for Osteopathic Recognition but have not yet been reviewed by the Osteopathic Principles Committee are also acknowledged in a report available in ADS public.

Resources

Additional information regarding Osteopathic Recognition can be found at www.acgme.org/osteopathicrecognition, including:

- Requirements
- FAQs
- Application Instruction Guide
- Application Documents
- Milestones
- Recent Presentation Slides

Preserving and Expanding Opportunities for Osteopathic Medical Education in the Single GME Accreditation System
Osteopathic Recognition Defined

Osteopathic Recognition is a designation conferred by the ACGME’s Osteopathic Principles Committee upon ACGME-accredited programs that demonstrate, through a formal application process, the commitment to teaching and assessing Osteopathic Principles and Practice (OPP) at the graduate medical education level.

Application Process

Programs seeking Osteopathic Recognition must submit an Osteopathic Recognition application. Each program at an institution must submit a separate application for Osteopathic Recognition. There is not an institutional application for Osteopathic Recognition.

The application is completed entirely online in the ACGME’s Accreditation Data System (ADS). The application process does not require duplication of information already entered and maintained in ADS related to accreditation status, as the program’s existing information is pulled into the Osteopathic Recognition application directly through the system. This includes basic information about the program, faculty members, and residents/fellows.

Must All Residents in a Program Receive Osteopathic Education if the Program Has Osteopathic Recognition?

Osteopathic Recognition is conferred upon a program. The program will be required to formally designate residents receiving formal osteopathic education. It may choose to designate all or a portion of the residents/fellows in the program, based on interest and the ability to meet established matriculation requirements. The Osteopathic Recognition Requirements will only apply to designated residents/fellows.

Key Requirements

- The program must integrate OPP into the six ACGME Core Competency areas.
- The program must create an osteopathic learning environment through longitudinal and focused educational experiences.
- The program must have an identified leader of osteopathic education, referred to as the Director of Osteopathic Education. The Director of Osteopathic Education may be the program director or another member of the osteopathic faculty. The Director of Osteopathic Education may be shared among programs and may be board certified in a specialty other than that of the program.
- The program must have one qualified core osteopathic faculty member, in addition to the Director of Osteopathic Education. Osteopathic faculty members, including core osteopathic faculty members, may be shared among programs and may be board certified in a specialty other than that of the program.

Who Can Apply?

Any ACGME-accredited or pre-accredited program may apply for Osteopathic Recognition. Subspecialty programs may apply regardless of whether the core program has applied. Programs do not need to have previously been AOA-approved to apply for Osteopathic Recognition.

When Can a Program Apply?

ACGME-accredited programs and ACGME programs with a status of Pre-Accreditation may apply at any time. Applications for Osteopathic Recognition will be accepted indefinitely for existing and new programs, even after June 30, 2020.

Resident Eligibility

Programs with Osteopathic Recognition may appoint any candidate to an osteopathic position, as long as he or she is eligible to enter the ACGME-accredited program. Candidates may be required to satisfy additional pre-requisite requirements, based on prior education in OPP. Pre-requisite criteria may differ by program.

What Are the Fees for Osteopathic Recognition?

There are no ACGME fees associated with Osteopathic Recognition. There is no fee to apply for or to maintain Osteopathic Recognition. There is also no fee for any future site visits that may occur related to Osteopathic Recognition.