

SUBJECT: Osteopathic Recognition in Accreditation Council for Graduate
Medical Education (ACGME) Programs

SUBMITTED BY: Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physicians Society on behalf of
Gregory R. Turissini, OMS-IV, Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine
and Pooja Mallipaddi, OMS-II, Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine

REFERRED TO: 2021 American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOF)P
Congress of Delegates

RESOLUTION NO. 10

- 1 WHEREAS, in 2020 the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and the Accreditation Council for Graduate
2 Medical Education (ACGME) transitioned to a single graduate medical education (GME) accreditation system
3 under ACGME¹; and
4
5 WHEREAS, post-single accreditation ACGME residency programs can apply for Osteopathic Recognition,
6 which is a designation “conferred by the Osteopathic Principles Committee upon an ACGME-accredited
7 graduate medical education program providing requisite education in Osteopathic Principles and Practice
8 (OPP)”²; and
9
10 WHEREAS, programs with Osteopathic Recognition must have a director of osteopathic education on faculty
11 and “have at least one designated osteopathic resident per program year, averaged over three years”²; and
12
13 WHEREAS, prior to 2020’s GME single accreditation, there were 143 AOA-accredited family medicine
14 residency programs³; and
15
16 WHEREAS, after 2020’s GME single accreditation, there are a total of 695 ACGME family residency programs
17 as of October 2020⁴; and
18
19 WHEREAS, of those 695 programs, only 147 ACGME family residency programs (21%) have Osteopathic
20 Recognition⁴; and
21
22 WHEREAS, Osteopathic Recognition allows for a greater integration of osteopathic residents in otherwise
23 traditionally ACGME allopathic residencies; and
24
25 WHEREAS, Osteopathic Recognition creates an opportunity for all physicians to understand osteopathic
26 philosophy and to learn and incorporate osteopathic manipulation skills into patient-centered care⁵; and
27
28 WHEREAS, Osteopathic Recognition will bring an influx of physicians to family medicine residencies, as the
29 osteopathic philosophy stands on holistic medicine practices that closely resemble the values of the specialty
30 of family medicine⁶; and
31
32 WHEREAS, the influx of physicians into family medicine residencies will address the physician shortage in
33 rural and underserved communities⁷; now, therefore be it
34
35 RESOLVED, that the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians encourage the Accreditation Council
36 for Graduate Medical Education family medicine residency programs to seek the Osteopathic Recognition
37 distinction in the promotion of Osteopathic Principles and Practice.
38

References:

1. Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. (2020). Benefits of single GME. Retrieved from <https://acgme.org/What-We-Do/Accreditation/Single-GME-Accreditation-System/Benefits-of-Single-GME>
2. Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. (2018). *Osteopathic recognition requirements*. (Accreditation Requirements). Chicago, IL: Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. Retrieved from <https://www.acgme.org/Portals/0/PFAssets/ProgramRequirements/801OsteopathicRecognition2018.pdf?ver=2018-02-20-154513-650>
3. American Osteopathic Association. (2020). *Former AOA programs that have transitioned to ACGME accreditation*. (Transition Update). Chicago, IL: American Osteopathic Association. Retrieved from <https://osteopathic.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/single-gme-transitioned-programs-opportunities.pdf>
4. American Academy of Family Physicians. (2020). *Residency directory (search)*. Retrieved December 18, 2020, from <https://www.aafp.org/medical-education/directory/residency/search>
5. Miller, T., Jarvis, J., Waterson, Z., Clements, D., & Mitchell, K. (2017). Osteopathic recognition: When, what, how and why? *Annals of Family Medicine*, 15(1), 91.
6. Jones, K. (2014, September 9). The value of family medicine: Stating the obvious to the oblivious. *AAFP*. Retrieved from https://www.aafp.org/news/blogs/freshperspectives/entry/the_value_of_family_medicine.html
7. American Osteopathic Association. (2020). Osteopathic medical profession surges above 150,000 physicians and students. Retrieved from <https://osteopathic.org/2020/04/27/osteopathic-medical-profession-surges-above-150000-physicians-and-students/>