



*College of
Osteopathic
Medicine*

at Arkansas State University

Fact Sheet

Overview

- New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine at Arkansas State University (NYITCOM at A-State) is located in Jonesboro, AR, on the campus of Arkansas State University.
- Medical degrees are conferred by NYIT, a private, non-profit institution of higher education that established its medical school (NYITCOM) program in Jonesboro to meet the need for more physicians in this medically underserved area.
- Housed in the 86,000 square-foot Wilson Hall, NYITCOM at A-State is NYIT's second medical school location (the other NYITCOM location is in Old Westbury, NY).

Leadership

- NYITCOM at A-State Dean: Shane Speights, D.O., a native Arkansan.
- NYITCOM Dean: Wolfgang Gilliar, D.O.
- NYIT Vice President for Medical Affairs and Global Health: Jerry Balentine, D.O.
- NYIT President: Hank Foley, Ph.D.

Background

- A-State approached NYIT in 2012 with the idea of establishing an NYITCOM program at the A-State, aimed at producing physicians, especially physicians that would practice generalist specialties (family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, general surgery, emergency medicine, and obstetrics/gynecology), who would practice in the medically underserved areas of Arkansas and the Mississippi Delta region.
- NYITCOM developed the partnership as part of its overarching vision to advance patient-centered, population-based osteopathic health care through transformative education and illuminating research.
- NYITCOM at A-State facilities include a state-of-the art anatomy lab, team-based teaching labs, an auditorium, osteopathic manipulative lab, medical library, student lounge, simulation labs, and classrooms outfitted with technology for in-person and two-way live streaming of lectures between the Arkansas and New York campuses.
- Upon welcoming its inaugural class of 115 medical students in August 2016, NYITCOM at A-State began delivering on its mission to improve access to health care for the underserved and rural populations in Arkansas and the Mississippi Delta Region.

Regional Demand for Health Care Professionals

- Arkansas has an overall health ranking of 48 out of 50 states in its population's health status (America's Health Rankings, United Health Foundation 2016 report), due to low health indicators including obesity and number of adults who smoke.
- Arkansas ranks 46 out of 51 states (including the District of Columbia) in the number of active physicians per capita, and 39 out of 51 states in the number of primary care physicians per 100,000 people (2017 State Physician Workforce Data Report, AAMC).

- The impending U.S. physician shortage is expected to produce a shortfall of more than 35,000 primary care physicians by 2025 (AAMC, 2017), and new osteopathic physicians will be needed.

Osteopathic Medicine

- Osteopathic medicine is one of the fastest growing health care professions in the United States, and more than 20% of all U.S. medical students are now studying to become osteopathic physicians, known as “D.O.s.”
- Although osteopathic physicians practice in all specialties, including surgery, cardiology, and neurology, the osteopathic profession has distinguished itself in the percentage of physicians in the primary care disciplines of family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics.

Fast Facts

- NYITCOM at Arkansas State University enrollment: 115 per class per year
- NYITCOM Old Westbury enrollment: 295 per class per year.
- NYITCOM is accredited by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA)
- In the 2017-2018 academic year, NYITCOM at A-State has 230 first and second-year medical students, with more than two-thirds from the Mississippi Delta Region.
- The NYITCOM at A-State Class of 2021 is 39% female, 61% male; students from Arkansas, Illinois, Florida, Louisiana, Missouri, and Texas represent the highest number of attendees.

Curriculum

- NYITCOM at A-State is among the first medical schools in the U.S. to train first-year students to deliver care via telemedicine (the use of telecommunication and information technology to provide clinical health care from a distance).
- Each NYITCOM at A-State student must complete a four-week rotation in a rural area.
- The majority of third- and fourth-year rotations will occur in community hospitals, including NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital and St. Bernard’s Medical Center.
- In addition to their medical degree, every graduate from NYITCOM at A-State obtains a certificate in Population Health. They also have the opportunity to obtain certificates in: Telemedicine, Health IT, Evidence Based Medicine, or Global Health.
- Students can also apply for the Academic Medicine Scholars Program in which they earn a Master’s in Neuromuscular Medicine. These select second-year NYITCOM at A-State students are given faculty mentorship while spending an extra year gaining valuable research and teaching experience.

Economic Impact

- By 2030, NYITCOM at A-State will produce 1,000 physicians to serve in the Delta region and beyond.
- Current projections show that NYITCOM at A-State will have a \$70 million economic impact on northeast Arkansas by the end of 2018, with \$11.2 million in tax revenue expected to be generated for the region.

About NYITCOM

- Institutional Mission: NYITCOM is committed to training osteopathic physicians for a lifetime of learning and practice, based upon the integration of evidence-based knowledge, critical thinking, and the tenets of osteopathic principles and practice. We are also committed to preparing osteopathic physicians for careers in health care, including that in the inner city and rural communities, as well as to the scholarly pursuit of new knowledge concerning health and disease.
- NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine traces its roots to W. Kenneth Riland, D.O., and a group of visionary osteopathic physicians. Dr. Riland was the personal physician to former President Nixon, Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Dr. Riland and his colleagues saw the establishment of the medical school as a way to promote and strengthen the credibility of osteopathic medicine and leveraged the support of Rockefeller and other leaders to establish the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1977.
- NYITCOM is one of the largest osteopathic medical schools in the United States.
- NYITCOM provides a continuum of educational experiences, including pre-medical education, medical education, clinical clerkships, and post-graduate (residency) training.
- Faculty research areas include heart failure, Parkinson's disease, health benefits of osteopathic manual treatment, kidney disease, and sports medicine.
- More than 7,400 graduates of NYITCOM practice in 50 U.S. states and 18 countries.
- Approximately 50% of NYITCOM graduates practice in the area of primary care (family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics).
- NYITCOM students consistently have a 100% match/placement rate into residency programs.
- NYITCOM is one of NYIT's seven schools and colleges, including its School of Health Professions, School of Engineering and Computing Sciences, School of Architecture and Design, School of Management, School of Interdisciplinary Studies and Education, and College of Arts and Sciences