

AOA Update

Robert G. G. Piccinini, DO, D.FACN – President

Northern Michigan Osteopathic Association

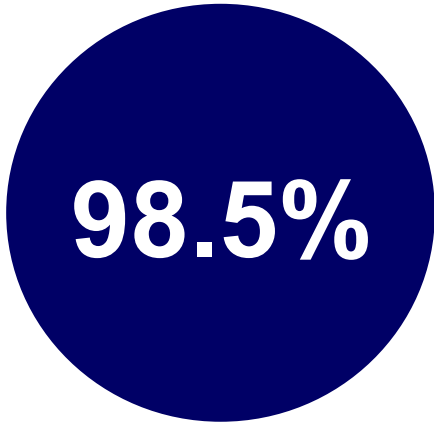
June 18, 2026



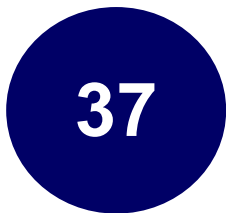
AMERICAN
OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

Strong Match in 2026

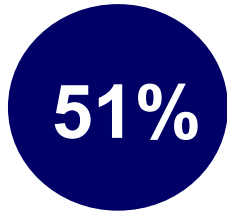
for osteopathic medical students



Placed



Specialties



Matched in
primary care



U.S. DO seniors increased percentage of positions filled over the past 5-years in:

- PM&R (87%)
- Pathology (53%)
- Emergency medicine (49%)
- Psychiatry (46%)
- OB/GYN (36%)

1

Support the Career Journey of
Osteopathic Physicians and
Students Around the World

2

Communicating the Value of
Osteopathic Medicine



**STRATEGIC
PLAN** 2026-2029

Your Journey. Our Shared Commitment.

3

Osteopathic Medicine Body
of Knowledge / Education
and Research

4

Leadership
Development





Robert G. G. Piccinini, DO, D.FACN
AOA President

AOA presidential and organizational goals

Stronger member support and communication



Strengthening communication and member engagement



Anticipating and managing disruptions



Honoring legacy and supporting the future



Prioritizing mental health



AOA takes legal action against ABIM

- Challenging restrictive policy
 - Blocking qualified osteopathic residents and fellows from taking ABIM exams
 - Removing skilled osteopathic program directors from leadership

AOA's legal action aims to restore fairness and ensure DOs can lead the next generation



Improved Longitudinal Assessment experience began in January 2026

Improving the value of osteopathic certifying boards

A more convenient and streamlined Longitudinal Assessment process:

- Single sign-on (SSO) – sign in through AOA account
- Streamlined delivery experience – all questions are provided at once
- Personalized remediation – begins seven days after first attempt



OMT wins critical to protecting the osteopathic profession

Promoting osteopathic distinctiveness

Recent AOA & affiliate advocacy

- **Only** OMT recognized as a non-pharmacologic form of pain treatment in FY25 & FY26 HHS funding bill
- Promoting OMT in Medicare Physician Fee Schedule comments
- Challenging “Registered Osteopathic Medical Practitioner” trademark
- California and Michigan E&M reimbursement wins

Educating decisionmakers about osteopathic medicine

New resource letters

- Introducing osteopathic medicine to new legislators
- Educating legislators and regulators about unregulated “osteopathy”
- Template to report practice of unregulated osteopathy





Successes in Advocacy

FY26 spending bill wins

- THCGME 4-year reauthorization with additional \$350M
- Telehealth flexibilities extended 2 years
- Lorna Breen healthcare wellness grants 5-year reauthorization
- Laboratory fees 15% cuts, 1-year delay

Working together to support the osteopathic profession



Working with NMOA on state advocacy priorities

Representing your voice on state legislation & regulatory issues

- Scope of practice & new licensure types
- Osteopathic equivalency & recognition
- Truth in advertising
- Public health
- Physician workforce
- Telemedicine
- Artificial/augmented intelligence (AI)
- RX misuse, abuse and diversion
- Physician-patient relationship





Your voice, amplified

Grassroots advocacy tailored to your practice of medicine

Join the Osteopathic Advocacy Network

Your elected officials need to hear from you!



- Engage in federal & state advocacy
- Shape the future of the profession
- Build influence on Capitol Hill
- Support AOA strategy
- Help legislation get passed



Championing osteopathic residents

Partnering with AACOM and stakeholders to engage ACGME

- ACGME standards review:
 - Ensure osteopathic perspective
- ACGME's annual educational conference session
 - Educating program directors



Impacting future initiatives in residency pathways



Recent Student Parity Activities

- Hosted 2nd Parity Summit
- Recommended ACGME requirement revisions
- Single GME Summit participation
- Direct communications from AOA Legal Counsel



**Advocating for equitable treatment
for OMSs and DO candidates**



Advancing equitable treatment

The AOA works to increase **awareness & understanding** of student parity issues among program directors and GME stakeholders

If you encounter obstacles that limit access to training, please report to:



Promoting equitable access to:

- Universal acceptance of COMLEX-USA
- Audition rotations
- Residencies & fellowships

Prioritizing your health & wellness

Caring for your own body, mind and spirit is priority one

- Wellness Toolkit
- On-demand wellness webinars
- Exclusive wellness app discounts for AOA members
- Substance abuse & mental health services



www.osteopathic.org/wellness-toolkit



Maintaining
wellness



Recognizing
burnout



Wellness
lifelines

Emerging DO Platform

A community built by DOs
for OMSs and DOs

- Residency insights
- Mentorship
- Connection (DOctor's lounge)
- Career growth



Scan to learn more





Working together to support you

We are committed to helping you
learn, grow & succeed

Let us know how
we can help you



Scan or call 312/202-8000

Thank you



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