



College of Osteopathic  
Medicine of the Pacific

## **Preview Day**

**Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Session**

**Wednesday, June 17, 2020**

**What We'll Be Covering:**

Curriculum Overview & Residency Placements

OMM & Anatomy Demonstrations

Admissions

Student Panel

# ADMISSIONS EXCEPTIONS

## Due to COVID-19

### A LETTER FROM THE DEAN

*Written by Paula Crone, DO*

Dear Applicants, Advisors, and Friends,

We at Western University of Health Sciences (WesternU) College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (COMP) recognize that these unprecedented times may have impacted your ability to complete your coursework and volunteerism in time for your application to medical school. Therefore, it is extremely important that we provide you with clear direction when completing your application to our school. In alignment with the guidelines provided by Dr. Robert A. Cain, AACOM President & Chief Executive Officer, we will continue our custom of providing a holistic review of all applications. This includes the following.

- Accept all pass/fail/satisfactory coursework, regardless of whether your school required this, including prerequisite coursework. This coursework will be evaluated in the context of your entire academic history.
- Accept all online coursework, including laboratory courses.
- Review your application without all required laboratory coursework, if you can demonstrate that your institution was unable to provide these courses due to COVID-19. A letter from the registrar will suffice.
- Review your application in consideration for an interview prior to receiving your MCAT exam scores. Once we receive your MCAT exam scores we will take these into consideration for admission.
- Take into consideration that your health care experience hours and other extracurricular experiences may have been impacted by the pandemic.
- Continue to require a letter of recommendation from a physician, preferably a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. Please see the rules for letters of recommendation in the Secondary Application Instructions. If you cannot provide a letter of recommendation from a physician, please provide us with a written statement explaining how COVID-19 has impacted your ability to obtain a letter of recommendation from a physician.

We also endorse the following AACOMAS recommendations:

“If you plan to take an MCAT exam, please ensure you are currently registered for an upcoming exam and indicate your planned MCAT date in your AACOMAS application. We encourage you to apply early and when ready without MCAT scores. As in previous application cycles, AACOMAS does not delay the delivery of your application without MCAT scores.”

If any of your institutions cannot provide official transcripts due to this pandemic, the AACOMAS application will provide an exception process for you to get your application verified and delivered to the colleges you select in your AACOMAS application. Keep in mind that our college will require official transcripts when operations resume at your previously attended institutions.

It would add value to your AACOMAS application to answer the COVID-19 essay that will be presented to you. This is your opportunity to highlight how you have dealt with and shown perseverance during this pandemic.”

Although our process has changed, I assure you that our focus on students has not. Your goals and aspirations of becoming a physician are important to us, and we are working hard to make your experience as meaningful and efficient as possible. On behalf of our COMP administration, faculty and staff, we are honored to receive your application and look forward to getting to know more about you. I applaud you for holding tight to your dreams and thank you for allowing our COMP family to be a part of that journey.

**Paula M. Crone, DO**

Vice President, WesternU Oregon

Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific & COMP-Northwest





Western University  
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

SCIENCE • CARING • HUMANISM

# COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE OF THE PACIFIC

## DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE (DO)



### About WesternU

Western University of Health Sciences is an innovative graduate university for the health professions, dedicated to preparing tomorrow's health practitioners to flourish as skilled, compassionate healers. The Pomona, California campus – established as the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific in 1977 – covers 25 acres and now consists of nine colleges under the WesternU banner. In 2011, a new, second campus was opened in Lebanon, Oregon. As a thriving center for medical, health care, and veterinary education, as well as research and community outreach, WesternU is poised to move into the future in an unprecedented and visionary way, comprehensively and successfully meeting the diverse health-related needs of a growing population.

### Why WesternU COMP/COMP Lebanon Campus

**Curriculum:** Divided into a pre-clinical phase (years one and two), and a clinical phase (years three and four), the curriculum employs multiple modalities such as lecture, small group activities, standardized patient encounters, community service, directed independent study and exposure to a vast array of clinical rotations.

**Ideal Medical Education Design (iMED):** The iMED team at COMP/COMP Lebanon Campus is several years into a transformation of the osteopathic medical curriculum, and launched the new curriculum in the fall of 2018. This ideal curriculum is responsive to the rapidly evolving demands of health care, while continuing to meet its mission. While the old curriculum remains highly integrated across the educational experience, the new curriculum methods are being explored to allow greater flexibility while providing expanded opportunities for student learners to adapt to the complex needs of the community.

**Interprofessional Education (IPE):** The WesternU IPE program is nationally renowned as a best practice in IPE. The program is designed to prepare students to excel as members of healthcare teams of the future.

**Unique Voluntary Tracks:** Students have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the clinical environment early in their training by participating in voluntary longitudinal tracks. Current tracks are chronic care, rural health, global health, lifestyle medicine and applied anatomy.

**Excellent Board Pass Rates:** Students are required to take and pass the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX-USA) Levels 1, 2-CE, and 2-PE before graduation. During residency training, graduates are required to take and pass the COMLEX-USA Level 3. Our students consistently meet or exceed the national first time pass rate on all levels of the COMLEX-USA exams.

**Outstanding Residency Placement:** COMP/COMP Lebanon Campus placement rates are consistently above the national average. The majority of graduates prefer to enter primary care specialties; however, our students are successful in placing into many medical and surgical specialties.

### About WesternU COMP/COMP Lebanon Campus

#### One College – Two Campuses:

Comprised of two campuses, COMP in Pomona, CA is located in a thriving urban area in east Los Angeles County. COMP Lebanon Campus is located in the beautiful mid-Willamette Valley. The College collaboratively shares an innovative curriculum and remarkable successes in national benchmarks, yet each campus captures unique qualities that best serve the students and the respective communities. COMP/COMP Lebanon Campus continues a tradition of graduating technically competent, culturally sensitive, professional and compassionate osteopathic physicians.

### Admission Requirements/Prerequisites

A minimum of 90 semester units or 135 quarter units must be completed at a regionally accredited institution **at the time of application**. Applicants must complete a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution or an institution recognized by the United States Department of Education. The degree must be conferred prior to matriculation, or via a WesternU/COMP linkage program.

Prerequisite Courses	Semester Units	Quarters Units
Biological Sciences w/lab	8	12
Inorganic Chemistry w/lab	8	12
Organic Chemistry w/lab	8	12
Physics w/lab	8	12
College English	6	9
Behavioral Sciences	6	9

*\*Information subject to change. To verify admissions requirements, curricula and other information, please consult our website, [prospective.westernu.edu](http://prospective.westernu.edu).*

#### Strongly Recommended Courses:

Biochemistry	Anatomy
Physiology	Microbiology
Genetics	Immunology

*All Prerequisites:*

- Must be completed at a regionally accredited U.S institution or its equivalent abroad
- Must be completed by June 1, of the year you plan to enter the program (if accepted)
- College Level Equivalency Program and A/P credits are accepted for prerequisite courses as long as the course credits are specified on the transcript and are class specific
- All coursework taken from non-U.S. institutions (excluding Canada) must be submitted to an approved service for evaluation
- COMP does not currently accept alternative educational experience or professional training to meet admissions requirements

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[prospective.westernu.edu](http://prospective.westernu.edu)



Western  
University  
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

## College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific

### 2020 Lebanon Class Statistics and FAQ

Number of Applications Received	4081
Number of Interviews Granted	360
Number of Students Enrolled	103
Average Overall GPA	3.65
Average Science GPA	3.58
Average Non-Science GPA	3.73
Average MCAT	507

- **Is a bachelor's degree required to apply?**  
A bachelor's degree is required for matriculation; however, you may apply while it is in progress.
- **Is there a separate application process for the Lebanon campus?**  
Yes. You can apply to one or both campuses through the application service, AACOMAS. If you apply to both campuses, you will be required to submit two secondary applications and two processing fees. Only one set of letters is required and will be posted to both applications.
- **Does it matter that I'm older than your average applicant?**  
Definitely not. We find that students of all ages make unique contributions to the class. We encourage all qualified applicants regardless of age.
- **Can I transfer into COMP from another medical school?**  
Yes; we consider transfer requests on a case by case basis. Please refer to the [Transfer Requirements](#) page for more information on application deadlines.
- **Can international students apply?**  
We cannot accept applications for the Lebanon campus from international students. However, we can accept applications from international students for the Pomona campus **only**, please refer to the [international student website](#) for details.
- **How is my GPA calculated in the application process?**  
AACOMAS calculates an average science, non-science, and overall GPA for undergraduate, post-baccalaureate and graduate coursework, and an average of all coursework taken. AACOMAS does not include professional coursework in their calculations.
- **Do I submit my letters of recommendation at the same time that I submit my secondary application?**  
You may submit your letters of recommendation through AACOMAS at the time you apply or after you receive confirmation that we have received your primary application. We prefer that the letters be sent electronically via VirtualEvals or Interfolio. Letters sent by mail should be sent to the Enrollment Data Services Office/DO Program by the recommender or by the health professions advising office staff on your campus at WesternU, 309 E. Second Street, Pomona, CA 91766. We do not accept letters of recommendation via email.
- **Can I submit more than the required number of recommendation letters?**  
Yes. However, it is advisable to limit the additional letters to 5.
- **Can I submit my secondary application after the 10-day deadline?**  
Yes. However, it is highly recommended that you submit your application as early as possible. Submitting your

application later may result in delayed processing. The committee will not review your file until all required documents have been received. Since we interview and offer acceptances on a rolling basis beginning in September, it is definitely to your advantage to submit your application and all supporting documents to us within the 10-day time frame.

- **How does the admissions committee decide which applicants are offered seats?**

The admissions committee reviews all completed applications and selects the most qualified candidates for interview taking into consideration such criteria as GPA, MCAT scores, clinical experience, leadership roles, knowledge of osteopathic medicine, and community service. Visit the [competitive candidate profile](#) page for details.

- **How and when will I know if I've been invited for an interview?**

You will receive a telephone call or email message from the admissions office if you have been selected for an interview. Applicants who are invited to interview will be scheduled for an interview three to four weeks in advance. Out-of-state applicants are given four to six weeks advance notice. Interviews are conducted from September through March. Keep your admissions counselor advised of current telephone number and email address.

- **When are acceptance letters and final notification letters mailed?**

Acceptance letters are mailed 10 to 15 business days following your interview. Alternates who are selected for the class will be contacted after the class is filled in April. All applicants will be notified of their final status in August.

- **I am a re-applicant, how can I better my application, or my chances of gaining admission?**

Take a critical review of the information that you provided our admissions office and see if there are any obvious voids. For example, maybe you did not shadow a DO, or you have little clinical experience. Perhaps you had low grades that lowered your overall and/or science GPA, or maybe you weren't involved in community service, or merely forgot to include it on your application. You would be surprised at how much you can learn about the strengths and weaknesses of your application simply by looking at it from an admissions perspective. Above all else, it is important to realize that we receive applications from thousands of highly qualified applicants each year and are only able to accept less than 10 percent of that pool.

- **How can I request a secondary application?**

When the admissions office receives your primary application from AACOMAS and determines that you have met the minimum requirements, you will immediately be directed to a secure webpage to file your secondary application. You will have 10 days to electronically file your secondary application. Secondary applications filed after 10 days may result in a delay in processing your application.

**ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES**

**Lucas Christiani** – University Recruiter

**E-mail:** [lchristiani@westernu.edu](mailto:lchristiani@westernu.edu)

**Phone:** (909) 469-5332

I can assist all prospective students with advising, club campus visits, and program presentations.

**Christopher Vu** – Admissions Counselor

**E-mail:** [cbvu@westernu.edu](mailto:cbvu@westernu.edu)

**Phone:** (909) 469-5261

I assist all applicants with questions regarding the application process and application status.



# SPaRC

Summer Preparedness and Readiness Course (SPaRC) is a comprehensive 5-week summer program designed to prepare newly admitted students with the academic and emotional skills needed to succeed at WesternU.

## Topics Covered Include:

- Basic medical sciences/anatomy
- Pharmacology
- Skeletal system overview
- Community service projects

## Program Benefits

### Academic Preparedness

- Preview rigorous curriculum
- Gain cadaver lab experience
- Receive faculty mentoring
- Strengthen study/testing strategies

### Emotional Readiness

- Learn techniques to manage stress
- Engage in wellbeing activities
- Develop new skills in EQ
- Receive communications training

Western  
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LEARNING ENHANCEMENT & ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

LEAD



## Dates:

Mid-June to Mid-July  
2020

## Eligibility:

Incoming students in  
COMP, CDM, CHS,  
CO, or CPM

## Housing Resources:

Campus (on and off)  
housing is available

## Cost:

\$950

## Contact Information:

Dr. Hector Arroyo, Jr.  
Program Director  
(909) 469-8499