

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The Osteopathic Research Center Summer Program in Clinical Research TCOM Class of 2025

1. Who is eligible to participate in the Summer Program?

We offer the program to medical students who successfully complete their first year at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in Spring 2022 (Class of 2025) because they will have time during their summer break to commit to research training. Students in TCOM who participate in other sponsored research programs during Summer 2022 will not be eligible for the program because it requires full-time effort.

2. Does this program focus on osteopathic medicine or osteopathic manipulative treatment research because it is offered by the Osteopathic Research Center?

No, the program is intended to provide training that will facilitate the conduct and critical evaluation of a wide variety of clinical research. In particular, the program will focus on common medical conditions and problems that are often presented by patients seeking medical care. Thus, the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey will be used as a source of data for student group projects and journal club presentations will be based on articles published in such general medical journals as the *New England Journal of Medicine* and *JAMA*.

3. How will acceptance into the program be determined?

The application process involves an online form that is reviewed and evaluated by the Program Director and/or other faculty or staff.

4. What will be the timetable for acceptance decisions and confirmations?

The application form deadline is **January 10, 2022**. We anticipate making acceptance decisions by January 31, 2022. An accepted student must confirm his/her position within 5 business days. Any withdrawals after an acceptance is confirmed will adversely impact the program and potentially hamper its ability to select alternate students from the Class of 2025.

5. Is there a cost to attend the program?

No, there are no tuition costs or other fees for the program. Institutional resources are also provided at no cost, including readings in Canvas, Health Sciences Library materials, and the IBM SPSS Statistics Software. However, students must acquire their own textbook(s).

6. Are there any financial benefits associated with the program?

No, there are no stipends or fringe benefits provided.

7. How many students will be accepted in the program?

The number of acceptances depends on the applicant pool. There is no capacity limit based on space or finances, as the program is provided remotely via Zoom and no stipends, fringe benefits, or textbooks are provided.

8. What if I want to take time off during the summer?

We require full-time effort throughout the entire three-week Summer Program, including times when no formal didactic sessions are scheduled. The program is heavily “front-loaded” so it is critical that students participate in all scheduled activities, which normally occur weekday mornings and on selected afternoons. We understand that rarely a student may be unable to attend program activities because of illness or an unexpected emergency. However, unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the program. Students may schedule summer vacations and other extended leaves after June 24, 2022. However, a major attraction of the program for some students is that they are not required to be in Fort Worth because it is offered remotely.

9. What must I do to complete the program?

A student will successfully complete the Summer Program by participating in all scheduled sessions and assigned research activities involving the group project and journal club presentation. A Certificate of Completion will be provided during Summer 2022 to students who successfully complete the program.

10. May I continue to do research with the Osteopathic Research Center following completion of the Summer Program?

Yes, the Osteopathic Research Center offers a Clinical Research Fellowship Program in conjunction with its PRECISION Pain Research Registry. Students who successfully complete the Summer Program will be eligible to apply for the fellowship program in Fall 2022. The application for the fellowship program will involve a competitive process with consideration of performance during the Summer Program, current standing in the TCOM Class of 2025, and a formal interview.

11. What types of data are available for research during the Summer Program?

The Summer Program will focus on using the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey. This survey enables a wide variety of research topics to be studied using data in the public domain. The IBM SPSS Statistics Software will be used to analyze these data and present the findings for each group project. Additional information about this survey is available [here](#).