



Accredited AOA CME Sponsors,

As we've discussed in our recent CME Town Halls, the AOA is committed to strengthening the osteopathic distinction in AOA accredited CME, and looking at various avenues to do just that.

At the Annual Business Meeting in Chicago last week, the Board of Trustees approved a new definition of osteopathically distinct CME, a new faculty requirement to strengthen osteopathic physician faculty participation, and an (optional) addition to the curriculum requirement that went into effect in January, 2022.

Below are the approved changes:

Definition of Osteopathically Distinct CME

Osteopathically distinct CME is evidence or practice-based medical education which includes the body of knowledge and skills essential to the osteopathic profession and patient care, and integrates osteopathic tenets and philosophy.

Faculty Requirement for Osteopathically Distinct CME

At least 50% of the total educational credits must be presented by osteopathic physicians. The remaining professionals may include subject matter experts approved by an educational planning committee.

***Note:** As with the current policy, all osteopathic specialties except for Family Medicine can apply for an exemption if they are having difficulty obtaining enough osteopathic physicians who are subject matter experts.*

Curriculum Requirement for Osteopathically Distinct CME

CME activities must address one or more of the AOA seven core competencies (current requirement as of January 2022) **or** one of the five osteopathic models with attention to the tenets.

Since July of 2021, the topic of osteopathic distinction in CME has been an agenda item for multiple CME Town Halls and Affiliate Quarterly calls. From these Town Halls and Affiliate Quarterly calls, the Osteopathically Distinct CME Task Force was born, and with the promise to include stakeholders who value osteopathically distinct CME. The Osteopathically Distinct CME Task Force was chaired by Robert Hostoffer, DO. Osteopathic specialty colleges, state societies, colleges of osteopathic medicine, and hospital CME sponsors were all represented through the taskforce membership. After several meetings and seeking feedback from our CME sponsors, the taskforce made these recommendations to strengthen AOA CME. And just as importantly, they made these recommendations with the goal of not adding any administrative burden to our CME sponsors.

Each of these changes will go into effect in January, 2023. At the same time, the AOA is aware that several organizations have activities already planned for 2023. As such, this will be a soft rollout, with a grace period to accommodate those who may not be able to yet reach the new faculty requirement. The AOA will not rush to make these changes at the expense of our valued CME sponsors and their high-quality education.

Later this month, the AOA will post the 2023 CME Sponsors Guide which will include these recommendations in full detail, and that will be sent out to all CME sponsors and linked on osteopathic.org.

The AOA sincerely thanks you for your help in reaching our goal, and for being a valued member of the osteopathic community. Additionally, we want to thank the members of the Osteopathically Distinct CME Task Force for championing this collaborative effort:

- Robert W. Hostoffer, DO, Chair
- Jeff Fraler, Secretary
- Sherri Quarles, (AAO), SOSE Representative
- Carol Houston (AOOCR), SOSE Representative
- Valerie Bakies-Lile (ACCOG), SOSE Representative
- Diana Ewert (POMA), AOSED Representative
- David Walls (OPSO, Oregon), AOSED Representative
- Matt Harney (OOA), AOSED Representative
- Jan Baum, AT Still University (Kirksville and Arizona), COM Sponsor Representative
- Kelly Clay, Doctors Hospital-OhioHealth (Columbus, OH), Hospital Sponsor Representative
- Jeanne Sandella, DO, NBOME, Non-Practice Affiliate Representative
- Alexios Carayannopoulos, DO, AAOE
- Amanda Weir, AOA Staff
- Delores Rodgers, AOA Staff
- Tina Espina, AOA Staff

And lastly we want to thank AOA CEO Dr. Kevin Klauer, and AOA Immediate Past President Dr. Joseph Giamio for always providing invaluable leadership during this process.

If you have any questions, please let me know. The Physician Education and CME team is happy to help.



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