

# Ohio Osteopathic Association and Ohio Osteopathic Foundation

## Ohio Osteopathic Association

The Ohio Osteopathic Association (OOA) was founded in 1898. It is governed by a Board of Trustees, composed of practicing osteopathic physicians, a resident in training and student representatives from the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. The mission of the OOA is to promote the distinctive philosophy and practice of osteopathic medicine in Ohio and support Ohio's osteopathic physicians in delivering principle-centered medicine and achieve the quadruple aim – better outcomes, lower cost, improved patient experience, and improved physician experience and wellbeing. The OOA's vision is to be the professional home for all osteopathic physicians in Ohio.

The OOA is a divisional (state) society of the American Osteopathic Association. The OOA advocates for the 4,600+ osteopathic physicians in the state, 14 hospitals that are members of the Ohio Osteopathic Hospital Association, and the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-HCOM). The OOA is one of five founding members of the Ohio Health Information Partnership (CliniSync), which built the infrastructure for Ohio's statewide Health Information Exchange to electronically share and view patient health records. Today, the system serves more than 92 percent of Ohio's 11.1 million residents.

The goals of the OOA include:

- To protect the right to practice osteopathic medicine
- To enhance public awareness of the osteopathic profession
- To preserve osteopathic principles
- To strengthen the practices of OOA members
- To promote the public health of the people of Ohio
- To demonstrate the value of OOA membership
- To ensure continued growth and financial stability of the association
- To inspire unity, pride, leadership and a sense of volunteerism

## Ohio Osteopathic Foundation

The Ohio Osteopathic Foundation (OOF) is the charitable arm of the Ohio Osteopathic Association, founded in 1963 to support osteopathic education and research in the state of Ohio. It is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt scientific and educational organization. The OOF is an approved sponsor of Category 1-A Continuing Medical Education (CME) programs in Ohio and serves as an umbrella for districts and affiliated organizations, which can sign agreements to become AOA CME Category 1-A providers under the OOF's supervision. From June 1975 until April 1983, the OOF was funded by a mandatory assessment, unanimously approved by the OOA House of Delegates. Today, the OOF depends on tax-deductible contributions and grants from other foundations and governmental agencies to carry on its work.

The OOF has donated more than \$1 million over the years to fund projects at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-HCOM). The foundation supports student activities, public health educational initiatives and provides white coats for every student who is accepted at OU-HCOM. Previous grants funded the purchase of various microscope systems, the learning resource center, basic science instructional units, research equipment, library acquisitions, a fellowship in osteopathic practice and principles and many other programs. The General Fund also supported a retreat that led to the development of a standard Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) curriculum for students associated with the Centers for Osteopathic Research & Education, interns and residents. The OOF also supported the naming of two research labs at the Ohio University Academic Research Center—one in honor of members of the Ohio Osteopathic Association and the other in honor of Warren General Hospital.

## Ohio Osteopathic Symposium

The Ohio Osteopathic Symposium is the state's premiere annual CME educational event cosponsored by the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Ohio Osteopathic Association. The event attracts over 800 participants, including physicians, students, exhibitors, speakers, staff, and guests. The Symposium program offers an average of 30 hours of AOA Category 1-A CME credit, with a variety of workshops and lectures providing the most up to date information of interest to physicians.