

THE COLLEGE

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

When osteopathic schools were forming throughout the country in the 1890s, two students at the Northern Institute of Osteopathy in Minneapolis—the Reverend Mason W. Pressly and Oscar John Snyder—targeted Philadelphia as a future home for an osteopathic medical college.

While the “City of Brotherly Love” had a rich history of medicine, it had but one “osteopathist” by the time Pressly and Snyder graduated in 1898 and 1899, respectively. The two doctors of osteopathy (DOs) followed through with their vision, incorporating Philadelphia College and Infirmary of Osteopathy (PCIO) on January 24, 1899. They rented two rooms in the Stephen Girard Building at 21 S. 12th Street—the first of many homes for the College—and opened their doors to students and patients.

In September 1899 the first PCIO degree was awarded to a transfer student; the first PCIO “class,” comprised of one woman and one MD, graduated in February 1900. It was not long before the early graduates formed an alumni association.

The word of osteopathy spread quickly in Philadelphia. As the number of students and faculty grew, the College moved to larger quarters, establishing its first “campus” at 33rd and Arch Streets, a suburban neighborhood in West Philadelphia. In a mansion surrounded by grassy lawns, a tradition of student life started with the organization of athletics, professional societies, fraternities and sororities.

By 1906 the College opened the Osteopathic Dispensary at 1617 Fairmount Avenue, forerunner of the Osteopathic Hospital of Philadelphia. The College moved to 1715 N. Broad Street (1908-1912), then to 832 Pine Street in the city’s Society Hill section, where a hospital would come to fruition at 410 S. Ninth Street.

The College prospered and moved through a number of sites in its first century, including Spring Garden, 48th and Spruce, and finally, City Avenue. During this growth period, the osteopathic medical curriculum intensified, osteopathic research was initiated, and clinic and hospital services grew rapidly as the medical school’s student body and faculty expanded dramatically.

Osteopathic medicine is one of the fastest-growing healthcare professions in the United States. Approximately one in four medical students attends a college of osteopathic medicine. More than 151,000 osteopathic physicians and medical students are an integral part of America’s health care delivery system. Today, all treatment modalities are available to osteopathic physicians, who may prescribe drugs, perform surgery and specialize in any area of medicine. DOs, whose primary care training prepares them to be highly skilled diagnosticians, are represented throughout the United States and in all branches of military service.

The addition of non-DO academic programs to the curriculum starting in the early 1990s began a new era of diversification for the College. In 1993, the College launched a graduate program in biomedical sciences and signaled the development of a graduate school. A range of clinically-focused, collaborative master’s and doctoral-level programs and degrees are presently offered at the College today. In 2018, the organization of the graduate school expanded to two schools: the School of Professional and Applied Psychology and the School of Health Sciences. The programs of study under the School of Professional and Applied Psychology

include counseling psychology, mental health counseling, school psychology, clinical psychology, educational specialist and organizational development. The programs of study under the School of Health Sciences are forensic medicine, biomedical science, physical therapy and physician assistant.

In 2005, the College opened a branch campus in Suwanee, Georgia, with a focus on helping to fill the need for more healthcare professionals in the South. Renamed PCOM Georgia in 2019, the location offers professional doctoral and master’s degree programs.

In 2017, PCOM received initial approval from the American Osteopathic Association’s (AOA) Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) to establish an additional location in Moultrie, Georgia. PCOM South Georgia welcomed its inaugural class of DO students in August 2019. In 2020, PCOM South Georgia expanded its academic offerings to include a biomedical sciences program.

Academic year calendars are provided as guides and are subject to change.

Academic terms apply only to the coursework or non-clinical component of degree programs. Third and fourth year DO clinical rotation schedules; second year physician assistant clinical preceptorships; and fourth year pharmacy experiential learning schedules are provided by the respective academic department or school.

Calendars are subject to change.

Calendar 2025-2026

Summer 2025

Date	Day	Event
May 5	Monday	First Summer Session Begins
May 26	Monday	Memorial Day
June 2	Monday	Second Summer Session Begins
June 19	Thursday	Juneteenth
June 30	Monday	Third Summer Session Begins
July 4	Friday	Independence Day Holiday
August 24	Sunday	Summer term ends
August 25-September 1	Monday-Monday	Break

Fall 2025

Date	Day	Event
September 2	Tuesday	Fall term begins
November 26-28	Wednesday-Friday	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 21	Sunday	Fall term ends
December 22-January 4	Monday-Sunday	Break

Spring 2026

Date	Day	Event
January 5	Monday	Spring term begins
January 19	Monday	MLK Day

April 26	Sunday	Spring term ends
April 27-May 3	Monday-Sunday	Break

Calendar 2026-2027

Summer 2026

Date	Day	Event
May 4	Monday	Summer term begins
May 25	Monday	Memorial Day
June 19	Friday	Juneteenth
July 6	Monday	Independence Day Holiday (Observed)
August 23	Sunday	Sumer term ends
August 24-August 30	Monday-Sunday	Break

Fall 2026

Date	Day	Event
August 31	Monday	Fall term begins
September 7	Monday	Labor Day Holiday
November 26-27	Wednesday-Friday	Thanksgiving Break
December 20	Sunday	Fall Term Ends
December 21-January 3	Monday-Sunday	Break

Spring 2027

Date	Day	Event
January 4	Monday	Spring term begins
January 18	Monday	MLK Day
April 25	Sunday	Spring term ends
April 26-May 2	Sunday-Monday	Break

Calendar 2027-2028

Summer 2027

Date	Day	Event
May 3	Monday	Summer term begins
May 31	Monday	Memorial Day
June 21	Monday	Juneteenth (Observed)
July 5	Monday	Independence Day Holiday (Observed)
August 22	Sunday	Summer term ends
August 23-August 29	Monday - Sunday	Break

Fall 2027

Date	Day	Event
August 30	Monday	Fall term begins
September 6	Monday	Labor Day Holiday
November 24-26	Wednesday-Friday	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 19	Sunday	Fall term ends
December 20-January 2	Monday-Sunday	Break

Spring 2028

Date	Day	Event
January 3	Monday	Spring term begins
January 17	Monday	MLK Day

April 23	Sunday	Spring Term Ends
April 24-April 30	Sunday-Monday	Break

Calendar 2028-2029

Summer 2028

Date	Day	Event
May 1	Monday	Summer Term Begins
May 29	Monday	Memorial Day
June 19	Monday	Juneteenth
July 4	Tuesday	Independence Day Holiday
August 20	Sunday	Summer term ends
August 21-August 27	Monday-Sunday	Break

Fall 2028

Date	Day	Event
September 5	Tuesday	Fall term begins
November 22-Novemberr24	Wednesday-Friday	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 24	Sunday	Fall term ends
December 25-January 2		Break

Spring 2029

Date	Day	Event
January 8	Wednesday	Spring Term Begins
January 15	Monday	MLK Day
April 29	Sunday	Spring term ends
April 30-May 6	Sunday-Monday	Break