

2026-2027 AOA Bureaus, Committees, and Councils

Department	B/C/C	B/C/C Description
Non-Departmental Governance	Committee on AOA Governance and Organizational Structure	<p>The Committee on AOA Governance and Organizational Structure (CAGOS) is responsible for review of the internal structure of the AOA, which includes review of bureau, committee, and council structures, and the development of new task forces, ad hoc committees, and/or committees. The Committee also reviews documents that impact the governance policies of the AOA, such as conflict of interest policies. The Committee shall have two co-chairs; one co-chair leading the Constitution and Bylaws review and one co-chair leading the Basic Documents review.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: 6 virtual meetings annually</p> <p>Open seats: (1) Postdoctoral Trainee; (1) Student</p>
Department of Affiliate Relations	Bureau of Affiliate Relations	<p>The Bureau of Affiliate Relations (BAR) provides the AOA divisional societies and specialty colleges with a direct link and structured opportunities to participate in the AOA’s policy development process. It also provides the affiliates with a forum to exchange information. The BAR is designed for the divisional societies and specialty colleges to: advise the AOA on pertinent issues; gather and disseminate relevant information; review and provide input into affiliate leader education; oversee affiliate award recognition programs; and educate and mentor each other.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: 3-4 virtual meetings annually</p> <p>Open seats: (4) AOSED; (4) SOSE; (2) SOMA</p>

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Department	B/C/C	B/C/C Description
Finance Department	Audit Committee	<p>The Audit Committee assists and reports to the Board of Trustees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In its oversight of the AOA’s external financial statements and the annual independent external audit of the financial statements; and • In selecting the independent external auditor and evaluating the independence of the auditors. <p>Estimated meeting frequency: 3-4 virtual meetings annually</p> <p>Open seats: (3) Member-at-Large</p>
Department of Education	Bureau of Osteopathic Education	<p>The Bureau of Osteopathic Education (BOE) studies the full continuum of osteopathic medical education (predoctoral, postdoctoral, and continuing medical education) and makes recommendations to the AOA Board of Trustees as to how to improve the educational system and the process through which the AOA oversees and approves or accredits educational programs.</p> <p>The Bureau is a representative body of the osteopathic profession. It receives reports from educational councils of the AOA. The Bureau acts to assure the AOA Board of Trustees, the osteopathic medical community and the public that the actions of the PTRC are within the framework of AOA policies. The Bureau also makes recommendations for advocating best standards in undergraduate medical education, graduate medical education, and continuing medical education.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: 4 one-hour calls annually</p> <p>Open seats: (3) Member-at-Large; (1) Osteopathic Educator; (1) AOGME; (1) Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists; (1) Postdoctoral Trainee; (3) Osteopathic CME; (2) Predoctoral Education; (1) AOSED; (1) SOSE; (1) NAOF Observer</p>

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	Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation	<p>The COCA is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the accreditation authority for colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs) in the United States. The 21 Commissioners of the COCA set and enforce accreditation standards; consider and adjudicate applications for the establishment of new COMs, branch campuses, and additional locations; and evaluate periodic reviews of existing COMs. Commissioners serve for three-year terms and can serve a maximum of three terms, except for the two COM Student Commissioners, who serve for one two-year term each.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: August (2.5 days in-person), December (2.5 days in-person), April (2.5 days in-person), June (1 day virtual)</p> <p>Open seats: (1) Dean; (1) COM Biomedical Science Faculty Member (not Dean/CAO); (1) Hospital or Health Care Administrator with Clinical Medical Education Experience; (2) GME Leader; (1) SOMA; (1) State Medical Licensing Board Physician Member</p>
	Council of OMED	<p>The Council of OMED is responsible for governance advice for the programming and planning of the annual Osteopathic Medical Education Conference (OMED) of the AOA. OMED is the premier source for quality osteopathic continuing medical education. The Council of OMED is an AOA accredited CME provider and serves as peer reviewers of OMED content.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: 3-4 virtual meetings annually</p> <p>Open seats: (4) Member-at-Large; (1) New Physician in Practice; (1) Postdoctoral Trainee; (1) Student</p>

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	Council on Osteopathic Educational Continuum	<p>The Council on Osteopathic Educational Continuum works directly to support the AOA's strategy on the educational continuum by supporting the lifelong learning of osteopathic physicians. The goals of the Council are to guide the AOA's Credit System and the AOA's provision of continuing medical education that helps osteopathic physicians demonstrate continuous improvement in knowledge, competence, practice performance, and patient outcomes, as well as fulfill the educational requirements for licensure and certification. Additionally, the Council recommends processes to support residency and fellowship programs applying/maintaining osteopathic recognition, and other matters as charged by the Bureau of Osteopathic Education or the AOA Board of Trustees.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: 4-5 virtual meetings annually</p> <p>Open seats: (1) Postdoctoral Trainee; (1) Student</p>

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Department	B/C/C	B/C/C Description
<p>Department of Governmental Affairs</p>	<p>Bureau on Federal Health Programs</p>	<p>The Bureau on Federal Health Programs (BFHP) provides direction on the Federal legislative and regulatory activities of the AOA Department of Governmental Affairs. The Bureau:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studies and evaluates Federal health and education issues of interest to osteopathic physicians and those they serve; • Ensures that the policies of the AOA and the directives of the Board of Trustees are followed and promoted; • Provides timely information on Federal legislative and regulatory issues to the osteopathic medical community; • Promotes the active involvement of members of the osteopathic medical community in grassroots activities that promote the interests of the community, and • Provides a forum for the recognition of the Training in Policies Studies program. <p>The Bureau shall have within its membership structure a Council on State Health Affairs (formerly the Bureau of State Government Affairs) and a Council on Economic and Regulatory Affairs (formerly the Bureau of Socioeconomic Affairs). Council appointees may participate in BFHP meetings at the discretion of the BFHP Chair.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: 2-3 meetings (either virtual or face-to-face depending on the needs at that time) annually</p> <p>Open seats: (4) Member-at-Large; (1) AOSED; (1) SOSE; (1) New Physician in Practice; (1) Postdoctoral Trainee; (1) Student; (1) NAOF Observer; (1) Advisor-Nonvoting</p>

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Department	B/C/C	B/C/C Description
	Council on Economic and Regulatory Affairs	<p>Council members will participate in Bureau on Federal Health Programs (BFHP) meetings as directed or when relevant subject matter pertaining to the council is being discussed.</p> <p>At the request of council chairs, BFHP members are available to participate in Council meetings when input from affiliates or BEL constituencies would inform Council discussions.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: Quarterly meetings with 1 in-person meeting and 3 virtual meetings for approximately 2 hours each</p> <p>Open seats: (1) Member-at-Large-Health Information Technology; (3) Member-at-Large; (1) RUC Delegate Advisor; (1) RUC Alternate Advisor; (1) CPT Advisor; (1) CPT Alternate Advisor</p>
	Council on State Health Affairs	<p>Council members will participate in Bureau on Federal Health Programs (BFHP) meetings as directed or when relevant subject matter pertaining to the council is being discussed.</p> <p>At the request of council chairs, BFHP members are available to participate in Council meetings when input from affiliates or BEL constituencies would inform Council discussions.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: Typically meets 3 times annually - once at a joint in-person Bureau-Council meeting and twice virtually</p> <p>Open seats: (1) Member-at-Large-Public Health Policy; (1) Member-at-Large</p>

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Department	B/C/C	B/C/C Description
Membership Department	Bureau of Emerging Leaders	<p>The Bureau of Emerging Leaders (BEL) is the representative body and advocate for all osteopathic medical students, osteopathic physicians in postdoctoral training, and early-career osteopathic physicians.</p> <p>The primary goals of the BEL are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on issues important to their colleagues, and • Develop opportunities and resources that will further the AOA's strategic plan and engage students, trainees and new physicians in the osteopathic medical profession and the AOA. <p>These opportunities and resources may include events, online content, leadership roles, networking, mentorship and community outreach. The BEL may create task forces and work groups to assist in the work of the BEL; the BEL will select students, trainees and new physicians to serve on these task forces and work groups. The BEL will focus on policy development to best represent their constituents, and has three delegates and three alternates attend the annual AOA House of Delegates.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: Monthly virtual meetings and one in-person meeting at OMED</p> <p>Open seats: (3) New Physician in Practice; (3) Postdoctoral Trainee; (3) Student</p>
	Bureau of International Osteopathic Medicine	<p>The Bureau of International Osteopathic Medicine (BIOM) supports the advancement and acceptance of osteopathic medicine internationally.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: 1 call; 1 meeting (either virtual or face-to-face depending on the needs at that time) annually</p> <p>Open seats: (1) International Affiliate; (2) Member-at-Large; (1) ASOMR; (1) AMOPS; (1) NBOME; (1) New Physician in Practice; (1) Postdoctoral Trainee; (1) Student; (1) Advisor-Nonvoting</p>

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Department	B/C/C	B/C/C Description
	Bureau of Membership	<p>The Bureau of Membership (BOM) makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees on policies affecting AOA membership development including recruitment and retention. Members of the Bureau evaluate trends, research to make policy recommendations, review exceptions to policy, review proposals for programs that provide tangible member benefits, and encourage the membership focus of the organization.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: Monthly virtual meetings; 1 meeting (face-to-face depending on the needs at that time) annually</p> <p>Open seats: (3) Member-at-Large; (1) New Physician in Practice; (1) Postdoctoral Trainee; (1) Student; (1) Advisor-Nonvoting</p>
Department of Research and Public Health	Bureau of Osteopathic Research and Public Health	<p>The Bureau of Osteopathic Research and Public Health (BORPH) directs all AOA research and public health activities. These activities include managing all research grant and fellowship programs, developing public health educational programs and initiatives, and advising AOA on public health and research policy.</p> <p>Members also participate in and encourage educational programs on important public health issues and presentations on current clinical research and the research call for abstracts and poster competition at OMED.</p> <p>Estimated meeting frequency: 5 calls annually</p> <p>Open seats: (13) Member-at-Large; (1) Postdoctoral Trainee; (1) Student; (1) NAOF Observer</p>