



The mission of Rocky Mountain OPTI
is to exceed the highest standards of
excellence for osteopathic
postgraduate training.



The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) has identified [five research priorities](#) it believes have the greatest potential to impact patient care and evidence-based medicine, and demonstrate the value DOs and their approach to care bring to the medical profession. Please forward these opportunities to those that you feel are interested.

1. Osteopathic Philosophy

- a. *RFA 1: Cost Effectiveness and Value-Based Care:* The AOA is seeking applications for research studies rooted in the osteopathic philosophy and directly focused on [cost effectiveness and value based care](#).
- b. *RFA 2: Osteopathic Philosophy and Differences in Communication, Compassion/Empathy or Patient Satisfaction:* The AOA is seeking applications for research studies rooted in the osteopathic philosophy to determine if this distinctive approach to patient care translates into better outcomes. Specific focus on compassion/empathy, patient/physician provider communication or patient satisfaction.

2. Chronic Diseases & Conditions

- a. *RFA: Osteopathic Approach to Diabetes: Pathophysiology, Treatment, Outcomes and Complications:* The AOA is seeking applications for research studies that address the [unique osteopathic approach to address diabetic related disorders](#). Both clinical and basic science proposals are eligible for this RFA.

3. Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine/Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMM/OMT):

- a. *RFA 1: OMT Effect on Inflammation:* The AOA is seeking applications for research studies that address the [effect of OMT on inflammation](#), through clinical, in vitro, or basic science research, which shows clear relevance to disease states including, but not limited to the following: acute or chronic musculoskeletal pain, chronic fatigue, fibromyalgia, asthma/COPD, infectious diseases, or other clinical conditions.
- b. *RFA 2: The Osteopathic Approach & Parkinson's Disease:* The AOA is seeking applications for research studies that address the [effect\(s\) of the osteopathic approach on Parkinson's disease](#) (gait improvement, tremors, medication use, etc.).

4. Musculoskeletal Injuries and Prevention

- a. *RFA: Osteopathic Medicine Applied to Musculoskeletal Injuries and Prevention:* The AOA is seeking applications for research studies that address osteopathic medicine applied to [musculoskeletal injuries and prevention](#); the application of osteopathic medicine to musculoskeletal through clinical, in vivo (i.e. animal models), in vitro (i.e. cell-based), or other basic science research.

5. Pain Management

- a. *RFA: Chronic Pain Management:* The AOA is seeing applications for research studies examining the osteopathic approach to chronic pain management and its effect on patient outcomes. [Chronic pain](#) is defined as pain that lasts more than three (3) months. These programs are designed as a mechanism for supporting the research training of the applicant and will enable the applicant to conduct a basic science, clinical, or health services research project that will make a significant contribution to osteopathic medicine. Additionally, these programs seek to encourage physicians in training and medical students to contribute to osteopathic research throughout their career.

RFA: Physicians in Training Research Program

Projects must be designed to [assess the osteopathic approach](#) in one of the [five priority areas](#).

Preference will be given to proposals that: (1) use novel approaches; and (2) lead to results/outcomes that could be translated to physician practices. Please note that while the AOA has a preference for novel projects it will also support supplemental projects of existing research studies. Supplemental projects must have research questions and specific aims distinct from the existing (parent) study. Applicants will be required to provide information regarding the parent study.

RFA: Osteopathic Medical Students Research Program

The AOA will [support supplemental projects](#) only of existing research studies. Supplemental projects must have research questions and specific aims distinct from the existing (parent) study. Applicants will be required to provide information regarding the parent study. Please visit www.osteopathic.org/research to learn more about the guidelines and to apply.

Thank you and have a wonderful day.

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