Occupational Licensing Study
50 State Comparison

State Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Osteopathic Physician & Surgeon
Osteopathic Physician Assistant

Presented by the Pennsylvania
Department of State
2020
**Osteopathic Physician & Surgeon**

Fully licensed physicians/surgeons who practice in all areas of medicine. Emphasizing a whole-person approach to treatment and care, Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons (DO) are trained to listen and partner with their patients to help them get healthy and stay well.

**Osteopathic Physician Assistant**

A person licensed by the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine and trained to perform, under the supervision of a physician, many clinical procedures traditionally performed by a physician, such as diagnosing and treating minor ailments.
Osteopathic Physician & Surgeon

Degree Requirement

Examination Requirement

2020
Osteopathic Physician & Surgeon

Training / Experience Requirement

The map shows the training/experience requirements for osteopathic physicians and surgeons across various states. The requirements vary from 0 to 3 years, with some states requiring 1 year, others 2 years, and a few requiring 3 years. The chart also indicates the median training/experience requirement for the U.S. is 1 year.

Continuing Education Requirement

The map illustrates the continuing education (CE) requirements across different states. The requirements range from 0 to 100 CE hours in 2-year cycles. The chart highlights that 4 states do not have CE requirements. Additionally, a infographic shows the distribution of CE reporting cycles across states, with 4 states reporting in 1 year, 11 states reporting in 2 years, and 31 states reporting in 3 years. The median CE hours for the U.S. is 53.83 hours.
Osteopathic Physician & Surgeon

Initial Licensing Fee

* Initial licensing fee comparison excludes examination fees, background check fees, and finger printing fees.

- LOWEST: $75.00 (Wisconsin)
- MEDIAN: $412.00
- HIGHEST: $1,090.00 (Rhode Island)

Median Fees:
- PA: $170.00
- U.S. Avg.: $472.15

Renewal Fees

- LOWEST: $75.00 (Wisconsin)
- MEDIAN: $353.50
- HIGHEST: $1,150.00 (Connecticut)

*To allow for comparisons, all fees have been adjusted to biennial renewal cycles.

Renewal Cycles:
- 32 States (Annual)
- 15 States (Biennial)
- 3 States (Triennial)
## States with Reciprocity or Endorsement

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<tr>
<th>Endorsement</th>
<th>Reciprocity</th>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
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**Act 41, signed by Governor Wolf on July 2, 2019, allows for portability of out-of-state professional licensees coming to work in Pennsylvania. Act 41 does this by granting all boards and commissions within the Commonwealth the authority to immediately endorse licensee from other states, territories or jurisdictions (with substantially equivalent licensing requirements) who are active, in good standing and without discipline against their license or criminal conviction. If a licensee comes from a jurisdiction that does not have substantially equal requirements for licensure, then the boards/commissions may grant a provisional license for a period of such time to allow the new resident to meet the necessary requirements, allowing them access to gainful employment in the interim.**
Osteopathic Physician Assistant

Degree Requirement

States with 1 required examination

State does not offer a license for Osteopathic Physician Assistant

Examination Requirement

Degrees:
- Graduate from approved PA Program
- State does not offer a license for Osteopathic Physician Assistant
Osteopathic Physician Assistant

Good Moral Character Requirement

To allow for comparison, CE requirements have been adjusted to 2-year reporting cycles.

Continuing Education Requirement

CE Reporting Cycles

States the do not offer license for Osteopathic PA
40 CE hours/2 yrs
50 CE hours/2 yrs
100 CE hours/2 yrs

Good Moral Character Requirement for Licensure:

Yes
No
State does not offer a license for Osteopathic Physician Assistant

U.S. avg.
50 hours

100 hours
64 hours

MEDIAN:
50 hours

* To allow for comparison, CE requirements have been adjusted to 2-year reporting cycles.
Osteopathic Physician Assistant

### Initial Licensing Fee

- **PA Avg.:** $115.00
- **U.S. Avg.:** $163.00

*To allow for comparisons, all fees have been adjusted to biennial renewal cycles.

### Renewal Fees

- **PA:** $40.00
- **U.S. Avg.:** $226.00

*To allow for comparisons, all fees have been adjusted to biennial renewal cycles.

**Biennial:**
- **LOWEST:** $100.00 (West Virginia)
- **MEDIAN:** $150.00
- **HIGHEST:** $572.00 (Washington)

**Annual:**
- **LOWEST:** $100.00 (West Virginia)
- **MEDIAN:** $150.00
- **HIGHEST:** $572.00 (Washington)

**2 States:**
- **LOWEST:** $100.00 (West Virginia)
- **MEDIAN:** $150.00
- **HIGHEST:** $572.00 (Washington)

**3 States:**
- **LOWEST:** $100.00 (West Virginia)
- **MEDIAN:** $150.00
- **HIGHEST:** $572.00 (Washington)
**Act 41, signed by Governor Wolf on July 2, 2019, allows for portability of out-of-state professional licensees coming to work in Pennsylvania. Act 41 does this by granting all boards and commissions within the Commonwealth the authority to immediately endorse licensee from other states, territories or jurisdictions (with substantially equivalent licensing requirements) who are active, in good standing and without discipline against their license or criminal conviction. If a licensee comes from a jurisdiction that does not have substantially equal requirements for licensure, then the boards/commissions may grant a provisional license for a period of such time to allow the new resident to meet the necessary requirements, allowing them access to gainful employment in the interim.**
Thirteen states have a separate license for Osteopathic Physicians (D.O.), the other remaining states issue the same license type for D.O.'s and M.D.'s with the same requirements for licensure. Those states were included in the Osteopathic Physician report to compare licensure standards with the thirteen states that license D.O.'s individually.

The thirteen states that have a separate licensing board for Osteopathic Physicians include:

- Arizona
- California
- Florida
- Maine
- Michigan
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- Utah
- Vermont
- Washington
- West Virginia

The Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine also licenses:

- Osteopathic Acupuncturists
- Osteopathic Athletic Trainers
- Osteopathic Genetic Counselors
- Osteopathic Perfusionists
- Osteopathic Physician Acupuncturists
- Osteopathic Respiratory Therapists

Please see the State Board of Medicine report for more information for these occupations. This was done since a majority of states do not have a separate license class for osteopathic practice of these professions, making them difficult to compare across states.

For states that do not offer a license for Osteopathic Physician Assistants, please see the State Board of Medicine report for more information.
Sources:
State Licensing Boards

Arizona
https://www.azdo.gov/Licensure/Licensure#

California
https://www.ombc.ca.gov/

Florida
https://floridasosteopathicmedicine.gov/licensing/osteopathic-medicine-full-licensure/

Maine
http://www.maine.gov/osteo/

Michigan

Nevada
https://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-633.html

New Mexico
http://www.rrd.state.nm.us/boards/OsteopathicMedicine_Fees.aspx

Oklahoma
https://www.ok.gov/osboe/documents/Fee%20Schedule%20Template.pdf

Pennsylvania

Utah
https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title58/Chapter1/58-1.html

Vermont
https://www.sec.state.vt.us/professional-regulation/list-of-professions/osteopathic-physicians.aspx

Washington

West Virginia
https://www.wvbosteo.org/