

University of Northern Colorado
College of Osteopathic Medicine

Policy: Graduation

Responsible Party: Deans Council, College of Osteopathic Medicine

COCA Standard: 9.2

Review Frequency: Annually and as needed

1. Overview

The Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree is awarded to candidates who meet all academic, professional, and financial obligations as defined by the institution. Students are required to meet all degree requirements and comply with student graduation policies as described in the most current edition of UNC catalog as posted on the UNC COM website.

2. Graduation Requirements

To qualify for the DO degree from UNC COM, students must fulfill the following criteria:

2.1 Academic Requirements:

- Students must successfully complete all required pre-clinical coursework and clinical rotations.
- Students must be in **Academic Good Standing** as described in the student handbook.

2.2 National Examinations:

- Students must pass both the **COMLEX-USA Level 1** and **COMLEX-USA Level 2** examinations administered by the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME).

2.3 Clinical Competency:

- Students must demonstrate essential osteopathic clinical skills in alignment with the current Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation's (COCA) requirements.

3. Promotion and Recommendation for Graduation

3.1 Academic Review Process:

Policy Reviewed and Approved by Deans Council 09/26/25
Previously Approved 12/12/24

- The Student Progress Committee (SPC) will review each student's record to ensure that graduation requirements have been met. The committee will provide a list of students eligible for their degree to the UNC COM Faculty Assembly.
- The Faculty Assembly must approve the students endorsed by the SPC and will then present these students to the COM Dean.

3.2 Final Degree Conferral:

- The DO degree is conferred based on the recommendation of the UNC COM faculty. This recommendation is made to the Dean of UNC COM for degree conferral.

4. Participation in the Commencement Ceremony

Students who have not yet completed all requirements by the date of the Commencement Ceremony may still participate if all degree requirements are expected to be fulfilled before **July 1st** of the graduation year. Students who are on modified enrollment plans may participate in the Commencement Ceremony with the cohort with whom they will enter the residency match.

5. Financial and Administrative Obligations

- In addition to academic and clinical requirements, students must:
 - Ensure all financial obligations to the university are fulfilled.
 - Complete any other administrative requirements as stipulated by the university prior to graduation.