

Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine—Virginia Campus (VCOM—VC)

**Edward Via College of Osteopathic
Medicine—Campus at Virginia Tech**
Office of Admissions
2265 Kraft Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Phone: (540) 231-6138

Fax: (540) 231-5252

E-mail: admissions@vcom.vt.edu

Website: www.vcom.edu



Description

Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) is committed to serving the rural and underserved areas of the Appalachian Region, providing international medical service, enhancing diversity and advancing medical research.

Mission Statement

The MISSION of the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine is to prepare globally minded, community-focused physicians to meet the needs of rural and medically underserved populations and promote research to improve human health. VCOM faculty, staff, and students VALUE: professionalism, integrity, duty, compassion, altruism, knowledge, and critical thinking.

Setting: Blacksburg, Virginia; College town; Virginia Tech

Date Founded: 2003; Private CRC

Accreditation

Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine is accredited by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA).

Institutional affiliation

Virginia Tech

2014–2015 Enrollment

Total medical school enrollment: 745

Total male: 357

Total female: 388

First-year enrollment: 187

First-year male: 99

First-year female: 99

Total enrollment affiliate institutions: 30,000

Curricular Offerings

The curriculum at VCOM is innovative and modern. The faculty of VCOM recognizes that students learn in a number of ways. Students generally assimilate a knowledge base through instruction, reading and experience. VCOM uses a hybrid curriculum consisting of lectures, computerized case tutorials, laboratory experiences, clinical skills laboratories and clinical experiences throughout the four years.

Combined Degree Programs

VCOM allows students to participate in programs to attain dual degrees. VCOM collaborates with several institutions (primarily Virginia Tech) so that students may earn a DO/MBA, DO/MPH or DO/MS, and there are potential opportunities for the DO/MA and DO/PhD. If accepted into the dual degree program, the student, at the conclusion of the OMS III year, is granted an academic leave of absence for a period of one year for the Masters programs and up to two years for a PhD. The student will return to VCOM to complete the fourth year clinical rotations to fulfill the remaining requirements for the DO degree.

Special Programs

There are many programs that embrace the osteopathic belief that people are healthy when they are healthy in mind, body and spirit. The many outreach programs a VCOM student will participate in embrace the whole-person approach for the patient and the communities they serve.

- **Community Outreach:** Each week faculty and students provide healthcare for medically underserved and disadvantaged populations in Virginia and the Appalachian region. Students participate in projects to improve the health and wellness of a community as a part of their curriculum and through volunteer programs.
- **Global Outreach:** Embracing the one world – one health concept, VCOM faculty and students provide global health outreach programs in El Salvador, Honduras and the Dominican Republic. Students benefit from the sharing of cultural experiences, medical education and public health practices that in turn improve the health of the remote communities served. VCOM provides sustainable year-round health clinics in all three countries to ensure a continual improvement in healthcare and public health practices.
- **Sports Medicine:** VCOM students have the opportunity to work with renowned sports medicine faculty who provide care for Division 1 athletes at Virginia Tech, Olympic athletes at Winter Games, PGA tournaments, athletes from Radford University and with the region's high school teams. The school also sponsors a sports medicine fellowship for those wishing to enter this field.
- **Via Wellness Program:** To promote a healthy mind, body, and spirit, faculty and students know the message must start at home. Faculty and students structure and participate in the Via

Wellness Program, the program provides enrichment to campus life through a wide variety of sports, individual exercise programs, a social program, cultural programs, and spiritual programs. Families are included in all programs. Fitness awards are provided for those who achieve various levels of participation.

- **Pediatrics Outreach:** VCOM wishes to provide an exciting unique experience for the clinical students while developing compassionate student physicians capable of caring for these extraordinary patients, through immunization and school health projects. [Http://www.vcom.edu/pediatrics/index.html](http://www.vcom.edu/pediatrics/index.html)

Preparatory Programs

Post baccalaureate program

www.vcom.edu/post-baccalaureate/index.html

Facilities

- The largest Virginia Campus academic building is approximately 60,000 square feet and is situated on a 13-acre campus with an amphitheater, lakes, and walking trails.
- VCOM-Virginia Campus offers a state-of-the-art anatomy lab; two theatre style classrooms, small group rooms, and laboratory facilities.
- VCOM-Virginia Campus employs state-of-the-art technology in delivering curriculum, including high-tech classroom facilities and wireless access across the campus.
- The 22,000 square foot state-of-the-art Center for Simulation and Technology houses simulated patient and treatment rooms including surgery, pediatrics, geriatrics, obstetrics and gynecology and intensive care unit.
- Osteopathic manipulation labs provide an intimate educational environment.
- The Institute for Biomechanical and Sports Medicine Research (VCOM II) houses a deceleration sled and an 11,000 square foot conference center available in the building for functions.
- A 21,000 square foot research laboratory houses nine biomedical research laboratories.

Residence

The town of Blacksburg and the New River Valley provide an array of housing opportunities for Virginia campus students. Private apartment and townhome complexes catering to graduate students and young professionals are conveniently located across the street, throughout Blacksburg, and in neighboring communities. Virginia campus students also enjoy the serene environment of the surrounding rural areas.

Application Information

Primary application service: AACOMAS

Earliest filing date: Opening date of AACOMAS

Latest filing date:* 3/1/2016

*For best consideration, applicants should submit their AACOMAS application at least five weeks in advance of the latest filing date, as VCOM is on a

rolling admissions process and seats may be filled prior to this date.

Academic year/orientation for first-year students

start date: Late July/Early August 2016

Upon receipt of the AACOMAS application by VCOM, eligible applicants will be invited to submit a secondary application. See VCOM's website if you are applying to more than one VCOM campus.

International students (non-US citizens or temporary residents) considered: In select cases.

Supplemental Application

Supplemental application required: Yes

Sent to: Screened Applicants

URL: www.vcom.edu/admissions/application.html

Supplemental Application Fee: See VCOM's website

Fee waiver available: Yes

Waiver conditions, if offered: AACOMAS waiver

Supplemental app. earliest filing date: 7/1/2015

Supplemental app. latest filing date: Rolling

Supplemental Application Requirements

In order to be considered for a Secondary Application, candidates must present a competitive science GPA, overall GPA and MCAT score. (See VCOM's website for more information.) A letter of recommendation from a premedical advisor or science faculty member who has taught the applicant is required. Additionally shadowing with a physician and a letter of recommendation from that physician is required. If that experience was with a DO, all requirements will be met. If not, the student may be required to spend time meeting with a DO. See the VCOM website and secondary application for ways to meet this requirement if a DO did not write the required letter.

MCAT

Oldest MCAT considered: April 2012

Accept September 2014 MCAT scores: Yes

Accept January 2015 MCAT scores: Yes, considered

Additional Comments: VCOM is willing to consider the January MCAT score, if seats are still available.

Send Letters of Recommendation by:

Virtual Evals: Yes

Interfolio: Yes

Paper: Yes

Regular Acceptance Notice

Applicants will be requested to submit necessary matriculation documents, including a deposit, according to the following AACOMAS traffic guideline schedule:

- **Those accepted prior to November 15** will have until December 14
- **Those accepted between November 15 and January 14** will have 30 days
- **Those accepted between January 15 and May 14** will have 14 days
- **Those accepted after May 15** may be asked for an immediate deposit
- **Earliest acceptance date:** Before October 2015
- **Latest acceptance date:** Until class is filled
- **Maximum time for applicant to accept offer:** AACOMAS traffic guidelines.
- **Requests for deferred entrance considered:** Yes

Early Decision Program (EDP)

EDP available for: Both Residents and Non-Residents

EDP applications due to AACOMAS: 7/1/2015

EDP supplemental materials due: 8/15/2015

Applicants notified: By early October 2015

COM Interview Format

The interview day at VCOM-Virginia Campus includes an information session, one-on-one interviews, a tour of the Virginia campus, lunch with VCOM students, a tour of Blacksburg and the Virginia Tech campus and a session with a representative of the financial aid office.

First-Year Class Matriculants' Selection Factors

VCOM seeks to admit a portion of the class from qualified applicants based in Virginia. All qualified applicants are considered, and students are accepted from areas throughout the United States. and the Appalachian Region. (The Appalachian region consists of rural and underserved areas of Alabama,

Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee and West Virginia.)

VCOM screens all AACOMAS applications within two to three weeks of receipt. Candidates who present a strong science GPA and MCAT score are invited to submit the Secondary Application and letters of recommendation. Completed applications are reviewed for academic preparedness, health-care experience, volunteer outreach, fit with VCOM's mission, and commitment to the osteopathic profession. VCOM utilizes a rolling admissions process. Thus, candidates who submit an application early and return all required documents promptly will be at an advantage in the admissions process. VCOM recognizes, values and affirms that diversity contributes richness to the college and enhances the quality of education.

First-Year Class Matriculants' Self-Reported Race/Ethnicity:

Percentages are based on self-reported data and therefore may not equal 100%.

American Indian or Alaska Native: 0%

Asian: 19.1%

Black or African American: 5.9%

Hispanic/Latino: 4.3%

Pacific Islander: 0%

White: 67.6%

Other/No Answer: 3.2%

First-Year Class Matriculants with:

Science Majors: 72%

Non-Science Majors: 28%

Graduate degree(s): 10%

Premedical Coursework				
Science Course	Req.	Rec.	Lab	Sem. Hrs
Biology/Zoology	X			8
Biochemistry		X		
Molecular Biology		X		
Genetics		X		
Inorganic Chemistry	X			6-8
Organic Chemistry	X			6-8
Physics	X			6-8
Non-Science Course	Req.	Rec.	Lab	Sem. Hrs
College English	X			6
Behavioral Sciences				
Humanities				
Math/Statistics		X		
Other				
Additional Coursework: VCOM requires six additional biomedical credits at the 300 level or above for matriculation.				

Financial Information

Tuition and Fees

Source: 2014–2015 tuition. Data subject to change.

Resident tuition:	\$42,500
Non-Resident tuition:	\$42,500
Supplemental Application fee:	See website
Resident fees:	\$530
Non-Resident fees:	\$530
Health Insurance:	N/A

Fees Include:

Student Services	X	Technology (not computer)	X
Lab	X	Microscope Rental	
Computer		Health Service	X
Student Activities	X		

Est. Room, Board, Books & Living Costs: \$31,063/yr

Average 2014 graduate indebtedness: \$173,644

Deposit

Applicants should submit necessary matriculation documents, including a deposit, according to the AACOMAS traffic guideline schedule above.

Amount of deposit to hold place in class: \$1,500

Deposit due: AACOMAS traffic guidelines

Additional Deposit: No

Applied to tuition: Yes

Deposit refundable: No

Financial Aid

Enrolled students with federal financial aid: 89%

Scholarships: Yes

Average scholarship/grant: \$7,753