

Membership Categories

The ACOS membership is made up of individuals only; it has no corporate or institutional memberships. The College offers the following categories of membership:

Full Membership

Physicians are eligible for Full Membership if they have graduated from an AOA accredited college of osteopathic medicine; have successfully completed a surgical residency training program accredited by the AOA or by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME); and are fully licensed to practice medicine and surgery in the state in which they practice. Members are eligible for Dual Membership if they also are a member of the American College of Osteopathic Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics, or the American Osteopathic Colleges of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

Resident Membership

Surgical residents who are enrolled in an AOA or ACGME accredited residency training program are eligible for ACOS resident membership.

Student Membership

Members of the national Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA) are student members of the ACOS.

Life Membership

Members who have reached the age of 60 and have maintained continuous membership in the ACOS for 20 years are eligible for life membership.

Retired Membership

Members who have permanently retired from practice and do not qualify for life or inactive membership are eligible for retired membership status in the ACOS.

Associate Membership is available to any nonsurgical osteopathic and allopathic physician, or an advance practice provider currently employed by an ACOS member.

How to Join the ACOS

You can learn how to join the ACOS and obtain a membership application by visiting the ACOS website at www.facos.org.

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AMERICAN
COLLEGE OF
OSTEOPATHIC
SURGEONS
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American College of
Osteopathic Surgeons



Member Information Guide

Membership gives you access to:

- Essential information about federal legislation & regulations
- Educational programs on the latest surgical techniques
- Mentoring resources for students, residents and new surgeons in-practice
- Opportunities to discuss critical issues with colleagues



What Is the ACOS?

The American College of Osteopathic Surgeons (ACOS) is the primary advocate and the professional home for the osteopathic surgical profession, representing surgeons, surgical residents, and medical students nationwide.

The College provides its members with opportunities to attend educational programs on the latest surgical techniques and updates on current trends in healthcare delivery and financing, opportunities to develop their leadership skills, venues for meeting with colleagues from different locations and practice settings to discuss issues of common interest, and essential information about federal legislation and regulations that affect osteopathic surgeons.

What Is the College's Mission?

The ACOS is committed to assuring excellence in osteopathic surgical care through education, advocacy, leadership development, and the fostering of professional and personal relationships.

What Will ACOS Membership Do for You?

Training to be an osteopathic surgeon takes time, intelligence, and untiring commitment; the practice of surgery demands these same qualities. Membership in the ACOS will enable you to build on what you have worked so hard to achieve. The College's member services are designed to help you meet the challenges that arise in the day-to-day delivery of quality patient care.

ACOS Member Privileges and Services

As a member of the ACOS, you benefit professionally from the College's initiatives to protect and advance the profession of osteopathic surgery. Following are examples of the benefits of membership:

Continuing Surgical Education

Reduced member rates for on-site and Online CME programs and seminars on the latest developments and advances in the art and science of surgery, clinical care and practice management.

The ACOS Webinar Series offer learners the opportunity to hear directly from those whose are experts in their discipline in live or on-demand sessions, without leaving your office.

Advocacy

The ACOS is committed to ensuring that osteopathic surgeons' views are heard by the federal government at the legislative and regulatory levels on such issues as CMS payment cuts, policies related to E/M codes, workforce shortages, the opioid epidemic, and issues of improving quality of care, and quality of life, for all patients.

The ACOS-PAC

The goal of the political action committee of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons is to support candidates for federal office who support osteopathic surgeons and their patients.

Monthly membership newsletters

ACOS News provides members a monthly newsletter to keep you apprised of current issues affecting our members; and *Inside Surgery Today: A* bimonthly newsletter of the latest surgery and medical management news specially curated for the osteopathic surgeon.

Online Peer Review Journal

The Journal of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons (JACOS), dedicated to osteopathic principles in surgery presenting clinically relevant research and scientific reviews across surgical sub-specialties.

Fellow designations

The designation of *Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons* (FACOS) is conferred on members to recognize their board certification and voluntary activities and service to advance osteopathic medicine and surgery.

The designation, *Distinguished Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons* (DFACOS), is conferred upon ACOS Fellows for their considerable involvement, dedication, and contributions to the College and the osteopathic community. Distinguished Fellows demonstrate a long sustained engagement and service to the ACOS, exceptional professionalism, consummate integrity and noted leadership. This honor is bestowed upon the best of our profession.

ACOS Awards

Humanitarian Award—Recognizes members who have participated unselfishly in humanitarian activities that may include voluntary service in a member's community or state or on the national or international level.

Guy D. Beaumont Award of Academic Excellence — given in recognition of his or her accomplishments as an organizational leader who has improved the quality of osteopathic education in AOA/ACOS accredited surgical training programs and/or in continuing education programs sponsored by the College.

Distinguished Osteopathic Surgeon Award—Presented annually to a member who has made outstanding contributions as a surgeon, educator, and/or researcher on the community, national, or international level.

Orel F. Martin Medal—Awarded annually to an ACOS member who has made outstanding contributions to the College and/or the osteopathic profession.

Resident Achievement Award—Presented each year to outstanding resident physicians for their clinical ability, patient/resident manner, resident/staff relationships, and resident/community involvement.

Robert C. Erwin Literary Award—Presented annually to resident members who have authored outstanding scientific manuscripts.