

SUBJECT: ELIGIBILITY FOR AOA BOARD CERTIFICATION FOR MD  
PHYSICIANS COMPLETING ACGME RESIDENCY PROGRAMS  
WITH OSTEOPATHIC RECOGNITION

SUBMITTED BY: AOA President

REFERRED TO: AOA Board of Trustees

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- 1 WHEREAS, under the Single Accreditation System, Medical Doctors (MD) will be eligible for  
2 entry into osteopathic recognition graduate medical education programs; and
- 3 WHEREAS, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accredited  
4 graduate medical education programs will have an accreditation standard addressing the  
5 percentage of program graduates who take a board certification examination; and
- 6 WHEREAS, physicians who complete ACGME accredited osteopathic recognition programs  
7 will be encouraged to complete board certification through the American Osteopathic  
8 Association (AOA); and
- 9 WHEREAS, currently only graduates of AOA Commission on Osteopathic College  
10 Accreditation (COCA) accredited osteopathic medical schools are eligible for AOA  
11 board certification; now, therefore, be it,
- 12 RESOLVED, that the AOA Board of Trustees direct the AOA Bureau of Osteopathic  
13 Specialists to develop the necessary policy modifications that allow for MDs who  
14 successfully complete an osteopathic track position in an ACGME accredited residency  
15 program with Osteopathic Recognition be eligible for AOA board certification.

Explanatory Statement:

This is an instruction to the AOA Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (BOS) to begin the process of revising the standard and documents - it is not the final action. The AOA Board of Trustees will have an opportunity to review the BOS work product. A significant opportunity exists to encourage MD physicians to practice "Osteopathically". If those physicians take advantage of graduate medical education training in programs with osteopathic recognition, it is valuable for them to complete a certifying examination emphasizing the distinctive osteopathic philosophy.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no added cost of this resolution, and, in fact, there is a potential for increased revenue (although the amount cannot be calculated at this time).

ACTION TAKEN APPROVED

DATE February 25, 2016