

Who Says DOs and MDs Are Equal?

- American Medical Association (AMA)

See “What is Osteopathic Medicine,” *American Medical Association*, 2023: Oct 27. Available at: <https://www.ama-assn.org/medical-students/preparing-medical-school/what-osteopathic-medicine> (accessed December 21, 2024).

- American Osteopathic Association (AOA)

See Loveless B. “DOs and MDs: What Are the True Differences?” *The DO*, 2023; Jul 5. Available at: <https://thedo.osteopathic.org/columns/dos-and-mds-what-are-the-true-differences/> (accessed December 21, 2024); “Happy Birthday A. T. Still, MD, DO! 5 Facts About the Father of the Profession,” *The DO*, 2019: Aug 6. Available at: <https://thedo.osteopathic.org/2019/08/happy-birthday-a-t-still-md-do-5-facts-about-the-father-of-the-profession/> (accessed December 18, 2024).

- United States Medical Licensure Examination (USMLE)

See “Who Is Eligible to Take the USMLE?”, *2025 Bulletin of Information, United States Medical Licensure Examination*, 2025: 6-9. Available at: <https://www.usmle.org/sites/default/files/2024-11/2025bulletin.pdf> (accessed December 21, 2024).

- Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)

See “Celebrating Success: Dr. Nasca Addresses AOA House of Delegates,” *Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education*, 29: Jul 29. Available at: <https://www.acgme.org/newsroom/2019/7/celebrating-success-dr.-nasca-addresses-aoa-house-of-delegates> (accessed December 21, 2024).

- American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

See “Why Become Board Certified?”, *American Board of Medical Specialties*, undated. Available at: <https://www.abms.org/board-certification/getting-board-certified/> (accessed December 21, 2024).

- Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)

See “Essentials of a State Medical and Osteopathic Practice Act,” *Federation of State Medical Boards*, 2015; Apr. Available at: <https://www.fsmb.org/siteassets/advocacy/policies/essentials-of-a-state-medical-and-osteopathic-practice-act.pdf> (accessed December 21, 2024); Johnson DA. “Past Imperfect: Revisiting the History of the Federation of State Medical Boards,” *Journal of*

Medical Regulation 110, vol. 1: 20-32 (2024). Available at:
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/48771981> (accessed December 21, 2024);

- Most Especially, All the States and Territories That Have Composite Medical Boards Which License and Discipline Physicians, including

Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virgin Islands, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. See a listing of state medical boards on the FSMB Web site. Available at: <https://www.fsmb.org/contact-a-state-medical-board> (accessed December 21, 2024).

- Numerous well-respected hospitals and health systems, including,
 - Mayo Clinic, see Bauer BA, “What Kind of Doctor is a D.O.? Does a D.O. have the same training as an M.D.?”, *Mayo Clinic*, 2022; Nov 29. Available at: <https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/consumer-health/expert-answers/osteopathic-medicine/faq-20058168> (accessed December 26, 2024).
 - Cleveland Clinic, see “MD vs. DO: What’s the Difference?”, *Cleveland Clinic*, 2023; Feb 6. Available at: <https://health.clevelandclinic.org/do-vs-md> (accessed December 26, 2024).
 - University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Health, see “MDs and DOs: Does the Difference in Medical Degree Translate to a Difference in Patient Care?”, *UCLA Health*, 2023; Jul 5. Available at: <https://www.uclahealth.org/news/article/mds-and-dos-does-difference-medical-degree-translate> (accessed December 26, 2024).

- US Government and Public Service Organizations

See “Five Osteopathic Physicians with the Coolest Jobs,” *AACOM*, 2020; Apr 27. Available at: <https://www.aacom.org/detail-pages/blog/five-osteopathic-physicians-with-the-coolest-jobs> (accessed December 26, 2024); and Arvia K, “Get to Know President Joe Biden’s Personal Physician, Kevin O’Connor, DO,” *The DO*, 2024; Mar 18. Available at: <https://thedo.osteopathic.org/2024/03/get-to-know-president-bidens-physician-kevin-oconnor-do/> (accessed December 26, 2024).

- Several Offshore Medical Schools in the Caribbean Basin, for example,
 - St. George’s University School of Medicine (Grenada), see “MD vs. DO: The Definitive Guide to Help You Decide,” *St. George’s University School of*

Medicine, 2021: Apr 5. Available at: <https://www.sgu.edu/blog/medical/md-versus-do/> (accessed December 21, 2024).

- Ross University School of Medicine (Barbados), see “MD vs. DO: Does an MD Differ from a DO?”, *Ross University School of Medicine*, undated. Available at: <https://med.rossu.edu/MD-vs-DO-Test> (accessed December 21, 2024).
- University of Medicine and Health Sciences (St. Kitts and Nevis), see Torres C, “What Does DO Stand For? MDs, DOs, and Osteopathic Medicine,” *University of Medicine and Health Sciences*, 2023; Feb 21. Available at: <https://www.umhsk.org/blog/what-does-do-stand-for> (accessed December 21, 2024).
- Artificial Intelligence
 - Query ChatGPT, and ask: “In the US, are DO physicians and MD physicians equal?” The answer: “Yes, in the United States, **DO (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine)** and **MD (Doctor of Medicine)** physicians are considered equal in terms of their rights and responsibilities to practice medicine. Both DOs and MDs are fully licensed medical professionals, and both are authorized to prescribe medication, perform surgery, and practice in all areas of medicine, including specialties and sub-specialties [emphasis original]” (accessed December 26, 2024).