

Awarding the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Degree

Policy Information			
Policy# :	BOD.1020	Reviewed Date(s):	9/29/2022
Date Created:	9/5/2022	Revised Date(s):	
Responsible College Administrator:	Provost	BOD Approved Date:	10/4/2022

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To establish policy for conferral of the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree from the Baptist Health Sciences University College of Osteopathic Medicine (BUCOM).

2. Policy

- 2.1. Baptist Health Sciences University (Baptist University) students must complete all degree requirements as designated by their degree program and as outlined in the *University Catalog*.
- 2.2. Baptist University offers a program of study that leads to the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree.
- 2.3. To be awarded the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree, students are required to complete all course work with passing grades, satisfy all financial requirements, pass the COMLEX-USA level 1 and 2 exams, and be approved for conferral of the DO degree by BUCOM Faculty Council.
- 2.4. Students who satisfy all commencement requirements may participate in commencement activities and be conferred the DO degree from the College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- 2.5. Students with any outstanding coursework may request to participate in commencement ceremonies if it is anticipated that they will meet all degree requirements prior to the end of the academic year and begin post-graduate training on schedule. A diploma and complete official transcript will not be issued until all course or degree requirements are successfully completed.

3. Definitions

- 3.1. None.

4. Procedure

- 4.1. The Student Progress Committee (SPC), in conjunction with the Registrar, will verify that all financial and academic requirements are satisfied. The SPC also reviews any conduct violations, behavioral issues, and professional concerns. The SPC then provides the Faculty Council with a list of all students who are eligible for graduation.
- 4.2. The Faculty Council reviews the list of students eligible for graduation. Listed students are considered in the judgment of their medical school faculty, to have the potential to be productive medical care professionals and fulfill their responsibilities to their patients in a competent, professional, and compassionate manner. The Faculty Council votes on this list, thereby making a recommendation to the Dean of BUCOM that the DO degree be conferred on these students.



- 4.3. The Dean's Council convenes to review the Faculty Council's recommendations and approves final conferral of the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree to the candidates.
- 4.4. During commencement, the Dean ceremoniously recommends to the President that the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degrees be conferred.
- 4.5. The Board delegates authority to the President to fulfill the responsibility of degree conferral ceremoniously at the graduation ceremony. Once confirmed, the signature of the Chair of the BOD and the University President is affixed to the diploma signifying conferral of the degree.
- 4.5. The Registrar records the date of degree conferral as the day of the commencement ceremony for the graduate.
- 4.6. Students must meet all financial obligations to Baptist University, including completing financial arrangements before official transcript and diploma are released.

5. Related Information

- 5.1. ACA 6034 Commencement Requirements
- 5.2. SACSCOC Standards 9.7
- 5.3. COCA Standard 1.6.2 Degree Granting Body
- 5.4. Procedure edited 11/8/2022.