M.D. and D.O. Medical Programs

This graphic illustrates many of the similarities and differences between M.D. and D.O. medical school programs. Speak to your pre-health advisor to decide which programs might be right for you.

**Similarities**

- The MCAT® Exam is used in the admission process
- Students matriculate after completing their undergraduate degree
- Programs typically last 4 years
- Physicians are fully certified after passing board exams
- Graduates can practice any specialty
- Medical degree is followed by 3-7 years of residency

**Just M.D.**

- Applicants apply using AMCAS®
- 141 medical schools in the United States and 17 in Canada
- Students take the USMLE licensing exams

**Just D.O.**

- Applicants apply using AACOMAS®
- 30 D.O. medical schools in the United States
- Students take the COMLEX licensing exams
- Additional training in the musculoskeletal system and Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMT)