



Proposed Amendments to the AOA Constitution

The following proposed amendments to the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Constitution will be presented at the 2026 Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates for a first read, which will occur on July 17-19, 2026. The Chief Executive Officer of the American Osteopathic Association has arranged for their posting on the AOA's website, publication in the on-line edition of the *Journal of Osteopathic Medicine* and distribution to the specialty and divisional societies that will be eligible to send representatives to the AOA's House of Delegates.

All amendments require a two-thirds vote by the House of Delegates for approval.

Article VI - House of Delegates

~~B. Student Council Representation in Divisional Societies Divisional societies shall be awarded one additional delegate as a student council representative for each college of osteopathic medicine accredited by the Commission on Osteopathic College of Accreditation (COCA) and located in the state represented by that divisional society, such student delegate is to be elected according to the Bylaws of the American Osteopathic Association.~~

B. STUDENT REPRESENTATION. OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL STUDENT DELEGATE POSITIONS SHALL BE ALLOCATED DELEGATES AS OUTLINED IN THE BYLAWS.

Article VIII - Board of Trustees and Executive Committee

Section 2- Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee of this Association shall consist of the President, President-elect, Past Presidents for the preceding two years, the chairs of the Departments of Affiliate Relations, **COMMUNICATIONS**, Education, Finance, Governmental Affairs, Membership, and Research and Public Health.

Article VIII - Board of Trustees and Executive Committee

Section 1-Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall be the administrative and executive body of the Association and perform such other duties as are provided by the Bylaws. The Board of Trustees of this Association shall consist of ~~twenty-eight~~ **TWENTY-NINE** members.

F. ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM DIVISIONAL AFFILIATES TO SERVE FOR TWO YEARS. THE DIVISIONAL AFFILIATE TRUSTEE MUST BE AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF A STATE DIVISIONAL AFFILIATE AND BE NOMINATED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF OSTEOPATHIC STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS (AOSED).



Proposed Amendments to the AOA Bylaws

The following proposed amendment to the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Bylaws will be presented at the 2026 Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates, which will occur on July 17-19, 2026. The Chief Executive Officer of the American Osteopathic Association has arranged for their posting on the AOA's website, publication in the on-line edition of the *Journal of Osteopathic Medicine* and distribution to the specialty and divisional societies that will be eligible to send representatives to the AOA's House of Delegates.

All amendments require a two-thirds vote by the House of Delegates for approval.

Article VIII - Duties of Officers

Section 3 - Vice Presidents

The Vice Presidents, ~~in the order of their designation and in the absence or at the request of the President and President-elect,~~ shall perform the duties **DELEGATED TO THEM BY** ~~of the office of~~ the President.



Proposed Amendments to the AOA Bylaws

The following proposed amendment to the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Bylaws will be presented at the 2026 Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates, which will occur on July 17-19, 2026 for awareness and will be reviewed at the 2027 Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates upon the second read of AOA's Constitution amendment. The Chief Executive Officer of the American Osteopathic Association has arranged for their posting on the AOA's website, publication in the on-line edition of the *Journal of Osteopathic Medicine* and distribution to the specialty and divisional societies that will be eligible to send representatives to the AOA's House of Delegates.

Article IX - Departments, Bureaus, and Committees

The Board of Trustees and House of Delegates, consistent with the powers given to it by these Bylaws, shall establish and determine the duties of departments, bureaus, councils, commissions, committees, and task forces necessary to further the policies of the Association. The Association's departments shall include the Departments of Affiliate Relations, **COMMUNICATIONS**, Education, Finance, Governmental Affairs, Membership, and Research and Public Health. The activities of all departments, bureaus and committees shall, so far as possible, be executed in close cooperation with the Chief Executive Officer. Upon the expiration of the terms of office of chairs and members of the departments, bureaus, or committees, all records of the same shall be delivered by the chairs to the Chief Executive Officer. All employed staff of departments, bureaus, and committees in the offices shall be under the jurisdiction of the Chief Executive Officer.

Article V - House of Delegates

Section 10-~~Representation of Student Councils~~

~~The student council of each accredited college of osteopathic medicine, each branch campus and each additional location may be represented in the House of Delegates by its president (and such president's alternate elected by such student council) as a member of the delegation of the divisional society representing the state in which such college of osteopathic medicine and branch campus is located. Each such student delegate shall be accredited in the same manner and have the same privileges as the other members of the divisional society delegation; however, the chief administrative officer of each accredited college of osteopathic medicine and each branch campus shall certify the student council president and alternate to the Chief Executive Officer of this Association in writing or by electronic communication at least 30 days prior to the first day of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates and such Chief Executive Officer shall forthwith similarly certify each student council president and alternate to the secretary of the appropriate divisional society.~~



SECTION 10 – STUDENT REPRESENTATION

A. SOMA DELEGATION

FOUR PERCENT (4%) OF THE TOTAL DELGATES AS STATED IN THE CONSTITUTION SECTIONS ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1(A), (C) AND (D) SHALL BE ALLOCATED TO THE STUDENT OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (SOMA). SOMA DELEGATES WILL BE SELECTED ACCORDING TO SOMA’S BYLAWS.

B: COSGP REPRESENTATION

FOUR PERCENT (4%) OF THE TOTAL DELGATES AS STATED IN THE CONSTITUTION SECTIONS ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1(A), (C) AND (D) SHALL BE ALLOCATED TO THE COUNCIL OF OSTEOPATHIC STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESIDENTS (COSGP) OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE (AACOM). COSGP DELEGATES WILL BE SELECTED ACCORDING TO COSGP’S BYLAWS BUT SEATED WITH THE DIVISIONAL SOCIETY IN WHICH THEIR SCHOOL IS LOCATED.

DELEGATES OF BOTH SOMA AND COSGP MUST BE CURRENT STUDENTS, IN GOOD STANDING, ENROLLED IN A PROGRAM ACCREDITED BY THE COMMISSION ON OSTEOPATHIC COLLEGE ACCREDITATION (COCA). SOMA AND COSGP SHALL PROVIDE TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, IN WRITING BY ELECTRONIC COMMUCATION, THE NAMES OF ITS DELEGATES AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SHALL CERTIFY EACH MEMBER QUALIFIED AND SELECTED UNDER THIS SECTION. THE CALCULATION IDENTIFIED IN ARTICLE V, SECTION 10 OF THE BYLAWS SHALL BE ROUNDED TO THE CLOSEST DELEGATE NUMBER.

Article V - House of Delegates

~~Section 12-Representation of Student Osteopathic Medical Association~~

~~The Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) may be represented in the House of Delegates by one member of the SOMA Board selected by vote of the SOMA Board (or such SOMA member’s alternate, who shall also be a member of the SOMA Board selected by the SOMA Board). No SOMA delegate or alternate shall also be a member of a divisional society’s delegation representing the state in which such SOMA Board member’s osteopathic college is located. The SOMA delegate shall be accredited in the same manner and have the same privileges as the other members of the divisional society delegation; however, the Chief Administrative Officer of SOMA shall certify the SOMA delegate and alternate to the Chief Executive Officer of this Association in writing or by electronic communication at least 30 days prior to the first day of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates.~~



DETAILED DELEGATE NUMBERS			
Category	Proposed	Current	Variance
Divisional Societies (52)*	473	473	No Change
Specialty Societies (21)	21	21	No Change
SOMA	0	1	-1
BEL	3	3	No Change
COMs	0	73**	-73
Student Delegates	SOMA: 20 COSGP (SGA): 20		+40
TOTAL	537	571	-34

*per 2014 Bylaws **1 student per COM

Delegate Composition Explanatory: The student delegate numbers (20 SOMA; 20 COSGP) are equivalent to 8% of the total affiliate organization delegates of the House of Delegates. Annually the slated student delegates would need to stay engaged throughout the year with the state in which they resided. The aspects on operationalization are to be managed independently by the stakeholders.

Article V - House of Delegates

Section 1-Certification of Delegates and Alternates

b. Specialty Colleges

Each AOA recognized specialty college shall select one delegate and at least one alternate **WHO ARE REGULAR MEMBERS OF THE AOA** to the AOA House of Delegates in a manner prescribed in its Constitution and Bylaws. No specialty college delegate or alternate shall concurrently serve as a delegate for a divisional society at the AOA's House of Delegates. The Secretary of each specialty college shall certify the name of its delegate and alternate to the Chief Executive Officer of the AOA at least 30 days prior to the first day of the annual meeting of the AOA House of Delegates. Each delegate and alternate must be a member in good standing of this Association and their specialty college.