



## **Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine - (NSU-COM)**

Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine (NSU-COM) is part of Nova Southeastern University established in 1979 and located in South Florida. Nova Southeastern University is a private, not-for-profit institution, that offers a diverse array of innovative academic programs that complement on-campus educational opportunities and resources with accessible distance learning programs to foster academic excellence, intellectual inquiry, leadership, research, and commitment to community through engagement of students and faculty members in a dynamic, life-long learning environment.

The mission of the college of osteopathic medicine is to provide learner-centered education, both nationally and internationally, for osteopathic medical students, post-graduate trainees, physicians, and other professionals. Through its interprofessional programs, the college prepares competent and compassionate lifelong learners; supports research, scholarly activity, and community service; and advocates for the health and welfare of diverse populations including the medically underserved.

NSU-COM's major activities are osteopathic education and research. It employs a staff of 180 faculty members and has 920 osteopathic medical students. It does not have locations in other countries, but accepts foreign students in its college of osteopathic medicine and for clinical rotations.

### **International Medical Outreach Programs**

Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine (NSU-COM) coordinates and participates in international medical outreach programs that provide health care to underserved international communities. The mission of the outreach programs is to provide access to medical care in underserved and vulnerable countries to improve the health and wellness of those populations most in need. Our goal is to establish long-term relationships that allow us to revisit each community multiple times over several years until the community can maintain its medical status independently. Moreover, volunteers experience and share in a new culture. Each visit brings progress and success in community wellness.

In addition to attending to the health needs of those who do not usually have access to care, these rewarding experiences also offer our students, faculty members, and volunteers the chance to use their clinical skills in settings that may have medical and public health challenges different from their own. The exposure to varied cultures and the unique concerns that each presents provides participants with unparalleled real-world education that serves to enrich us all.

NSU-COM offers one-to two-week medical outreach trips for volunteer physicians, nurses, medical students, and other medical and non-medical individuals. Students of other disciplines are also allowed to participate, as each outreach trip allows. We provide medical assistance in areas where health care is limited or difficult to obtain and establish partnerships with the local clinics.

The Medical Outreach Committee comprised of faculty, staff and student representatives from various clubs assist in the planning and coordination of various international medical outreach programs. This committee has collaborated with the following countries for international medical outreach trips: Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, Bangladesh, Jamaica, and Dominican Republic.

Fourth year students can complete rural/underserved selective rotations at international locations. These clinical sites are sought out by the students and must meet certain educational criteria prior to being approved by the department. In 2011-2012, NSUCOM students have rotated in India, Israel, Virgin Islands, Vietnam, Haiti, Peru, Bulgaria, Ghana, UAE, Brazil, France, Trinidad, Canada, China, Mexico, and the Indian Himalayas.

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