GERMANY

Osteopathy
The national health ministry of Germany has stated that the regulation of the osteopathic profession is presently adequate through the existing medical societies for physicians and the Heilpraktiker organisations for osteopaths practising under this law. Physiotherapists, being trained as osteopaths, can only give osteopathic treatments under the scope of practice of their profession.

Despite this, osteopathy is a popular healthcare choice and treatment is increasingly being covered by most of the private and statutory health insurance companies.

Training in osteopathy is provided in full- and part-time university courses as well as full- and part-time courses run by private institutions. The duration and content of the education may differ from school to school, as there is currently no common curriculum recognised as the national standard. European common guidelines are being developed by the leading national associations for Osteopathy in Europe. Eventually these would serve as the future national standard.

The leading professional organisations and associations in Germany require a minimum of 1350 training hours for part-time education programs for physiotherapists. Currently two full-time universities of applied sciences in osteopathy exist, leading to BSc. and MSc degrees.

Statutes/Regulations:
There are presently no statutes or regulations defining the scope of practise of osteopathy in Germany. Regulations are currently being developed.

Schools of Osteopathy
A.i.O.
ABSO, Ausbildung für Blinde und Sehbehinderte in der Osteopathie
Akademie Dampsoft - Osteopathieschule GbR
AON Akademie für Osteopathie und Naturheilverfahren
AVT-College für Osteopathische Medizin: http://www.avt-osteopathie.de/
COE Europäisches Colleg für Osteopathie
College Sutherland
DAOM Deutsche Akademie für Osteopathische Medizin
DFO Deutsches Fortbildungsinstitut für Osteopathie
DOK Deutsches Osteopathie Kolleg
GCOM German College of Osteopathic Medicine
I.A.O. The International Academy of Osteopathy: http://www.osteopathie.eu/de
IFAO Institut für Angewandte Osteopathie
IFPO Institut für praktische Osteopathie
LCOM Littlejohn College für Osteopathische Medizin
OAM Osteopathie Akademie München
OSD Osteopathie Schule Deutschland
Osteopathie-Institut
Salutaris Gesundheit & Fortbildung
SFO -Schule für Osteopathie GmbH
SKOM
STILL ACADEMY Osteopathie GmbH
VDNO Vereinigung Deutsch–Niederländischer Osteopathen e.V.
Universities of applied science in Osteopathy
Dresden International University
Hochschule Fresenius
SHB Steinbeis-Hochschule-Berlin

**Organisations/Associations:**
Akademie für Osteopathie (AFO): conducts scientific research in osteopathy, supervision of thesis projects
Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Osteopathie (BAO): working group of osteopathic schools and associations defining common standards in training
Deutscher Verband für osteopathische Medizin (DVOM)
Verband der Osteopathen Deutschland (VOD): [http://www.osteopathie.de/](http://www.osteopathie.de/)

Leading professional organizations work together in setting standards in education and advocate on a national level for a law regulating the profession independently, with primary access and with full practice rights.