**AOA Seven Core Competencies**

1. **Osteopathic Philosophy/Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine**– Demonstration and application of knowledge of accepted standards in osteopathic manipulative treatment appropriate to the specialty; dedication to life-long learning and to incorporating the practice of osteopathic philosophy and OMM in patient care.
2. **Medical Knowledge**- Demonstration and application of knowledge of accepted standards of clinical medicine in the respective area; remain current with new developments in medicine and participate in life-long learning.
3. **Patient Care**- Demonstrate the ability to effectively treat patients and provide medical care that incorporates the osteopathic philosophy, patient empathy, awareness of behavioral issues, the incorporation of preventive medicine and health promotion.
4. **Interpersonal and Communication Skills** - Demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that enable a physician to establish and maintain professional relationships with patients, families, and other members of health care teams.
5. **Professionalism** – Uphold the [Osteopathic Oath](http://www.osteopathic.org/inside-aoa/about/leadership/Pages/osteopathic-oath.aspx) in the conduct of one’s professional activities that promotes advocacy of patient welfare, adherence to ethical principles, and collaboration with health professionals, life-long learning, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population; be cognizant of physical and mental health in order to effectively care for patients.
6. **Practice-Based Learning and Improvement**- Demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate methods of clinical practice, integrate evidence-based medicine into patient care; show an understanding of research methods; improve patient care practices.
7. **Systems-Based Practice** – Demonstrate an understanding of health care delivery systems; provide effective and qualitative patient care within the system; and practice cost-effective medicine.