

June 3, 2024

Dear Member of the Class of 2028,

Congratulations on your acceptance to the Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine! We are very pleased to have you join the Rowan-Virtua SOM family. We are writing to provide important information that will help you prepare for the Orientation in July.

By now, you should have received information from Dr. Todd Schachter, the Rowan-Virtua SOM Director of Student Health, regarding the health requirements needed for matriculation to Rowan-Virtua SOM. These materials **MUST** be returned by the deadline date stated in the letter you received upon acceptance to Rowan-Virtua SOM. *Failure to complete and return these materials on time may affect your acceptance and/or ability to start with your class.*

Your Orientation Week experience unofficially begins on Friday, July 12th with optional programming and the distribution of your personal laptops. The official Orientation for the Class of 2028 is scheduled for **Monday, July 15th through Friday, July 19th.** All entering students are **required** to participate in the Orientation Week programs and are strongly encouraged to attend the optional programming on July 12th. Orientation Week programming is primarily in-person with some programming offered online and through virtual sessions. We are finalizing the schedule for this important week and expect to provide a confirmed schedule by mid-June. At this time, we can provide the following highlights about the Orientation Week experience we are planning for the Class of 2028:

- Orientation Week will include a mix of virtual learning presentations, online coursework, small group workshops, and in-person sessions.
- We are working on a variety of presentations and activities to acquaint you with the campus, curriculum, faculty, staff, and one another.
- Peer engagement activities are also planned, including an outdoor BBQ event, a Big/Little match, and a session to share key strategies for surviving first year, just to name a few.
- The Orientation Week sessions will include a Welcome Program for the students who will call the Sewell campus home and a campus tour for all members of the class of 2028, who will have full access to the campus, including the classrooms, library, and study areas.
- Required Basic Life Support courses (three dates) will also be offered for members of the class.
- Finally, we've created a website with important information for you to begin at the School of Osteopathic Medicine. The website will be the primary means of communication for important Orientation information, including schedules, presentations, student organization information and new student requirements. The link for the site is: <https://som.rowan.edu/education/academic/orientation/>. **Please be sure to bookmark the Orientation Website and check it frequently. New links for required content will be added between now and Orientation Week.** You will also access the required online student modules via the links found on this site.



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Students should plan to complete any personal obligations and responsibilities (work, relocation, appointments, etc.) prior to Friday, July 12th to ensure that they are fully available to participate in all Orientation programming.

We realize you may have many questions at this time. We are also planning a virtual information session for the incoming class on **Monday, June 24th at 5:30 pm** to make sure you are prepared for Orientation Week and beginning medical school at SOM. At this session, you'll hear from the leaders from admissions, student affairs, student health, curriculum and more. You can find more information about this session, including the WebEx link, in your email.

Classes for first-year students on both campuses will begin on Monday, July 22nd.

All members of the class of 2028 will also participate in the White Coat Ceremony – a rite of passage for all medical students at the Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine – on Friday, August 9th in Pfleeger Theater on the Glassboro Campus. To accommodate your large class size, we will host two ceremonies: 4:00 pm and 6:30 pm. A large, outdoor reception will be held in between the ceremonies for all students and guests.

Students will be able to select their ceremony time and RSVP for up to three guests. Both ceremonies will also be livestreamed for all family and friends to view. More information about your White Coat Ceremony and the event registration will follow via email in July.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Brittany Quintana, Associate Director of Student & Alumni Programs, at (856) 566-2746 or at quinta02@rowan.edu.

Again, welcome to Rowan-Virtua SOM, and we look forward to meeting you in July!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dean A. Micciche".

Dean A. Micciche, MPA
Assistant Dean for Student Programs & Alumni Engagement