

**Proposed Indiana University of Pennsylvania College of Osteopathic Medicine
(Proposed IUPCOM—Candidate Status—Seeking Accreditation)**

COCA Pre-Accreditation Element 9.9: Physical Health Services
Pre-Accreditation Submission 9.9-1: Physical Health Services

Physical Health Services Policy

Purpose

This policy outlines the medical school's commitment to providing all enrolled students with access to timely, confidential, and comprehensive physical health services to support their well-being and capacity to meet academic and professional responsibilities.

Policy Statement

IUPCOM shall ensure that all students have access to physical health services either directly through campus-based providers or through referral to affiliated community providers. Services will promote preventive care, manage acute and chronic conditions, and support students' overall health and fitness to practice medicine.

Scope

This policy applies to all currently enrolled medical students, including those on official leave of absence, and includes both on-site and referred services, and documents student access to diagnostic, preventative, and therapeutic health services accessible at all locations (including clinical rotation sites) where students receive education from the COM.

Please refer to *Pre-Accreditation Element 9.9-3* for a listing of physical health services available to students at all teaching locations (including rotation sites) with service locations and hours, including three memorandums of understanding with three Pennsylvania FQHC networks who have agreed to see our students in any year of their education as patients for physical, mental, dental, and related healthcare needs.

1. Available Services

The medical school shall ensure access to physical health services that include, but are not limited to:

- **Primary care** (routine check-ups, physicals, and general health concerns)
- **Preventive care** (immunizations, screenings, health counseling)
- **Women's health and reproductive services**
- **Sexual health services** (STI testing, contraception, counseling)
- **Care for acute illness and injury**
- **Management of chronic health conditions**
- **Laboratory services** (as needed)

- **Referrals** to specialists for advanced care
- **Occupational health screenings**, if required for clinical placements

2. Access and Availability

- Students shall have access to timely appointments, including same-day care for urgent issues when available.
- Services may be delivered:
 - On campus, through a student health center or contracted provider
 - Through affiliated health systems
 - Via telehealth, where appropriate and available
- Students may select their own providers if preferred and are not required to use school-affiliated services.

3. Confidentiality

- All student health records are maintained separately from academic records and are confidential in accordance with applicable laws (e.g., FERPA, HIPAA, and state regulations).
- Health care providers who deliver physical health services will not be involved in teaching, assessing, or making decisions related to student promotion or disciplinary action.

4. Health Insurance

- Students are required to maintain active health insurance coverage throughout their enrollment.
- The medical school shall offer a student health insurance plan and provide assistance for enrollment and questions related to coverage.
- Students may opt out of the school plan if they demonstrate proof of comparable coverage.

5. Immunizations and Health Requirements

- All students must meet institutional health requirements, including mandatory immunizations, as a condition of participation in clinical training.
- Documentation of immunization status and required health screenings must be submitted prior to matriculation and updated as required.

6. Emergency and After-Hours Care

- The school will provide information about local urgent care centers, emergency rooms, and 24/7 nurse or provider hotlines.
- Students are responsible for seeking emergency care when needed, but the school will support students in accessing follow-up care and coordination with providers.

7. Student Leave for Physical Health Reasons

- Students may request a medical leave of absence due to physical health concerns in

accordance with the Leave of Absence Policy.

- The school will work collaboratively with students to ensure academic reintegration and necessary accommodations upon return.

8. Wellness and Preventive Education

The school will promote student wellness through:

- Excused absences from classes and rotation time to attend medical appointments as needed
- Health education programming
- Flu shot and vaccination clinics
- Nutrition, sleep hygiene, and fitness resources
- Peer wellness initiatives

Policy/Procedure Details	
Policy Owner	Director of Student Affairs
Effective Date	08/29/2025
Last Reviewed	08/29/2025
Review Frequency Requirements	5 Years
Related Policies and Documents	1. IUPCOM Webpage on Physical Health Services Information 2. IUPCOM Student Handbook 3. IUPCOM Student Health insurance Policy 4. IUPCOM Student Counseling and Mental Health Services Policy
Reviewed and Approved by Dean's Leadership Council	08/29/2025
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