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## Professional Organization

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- American College of Osteopathic Surgeons – [www.facos.org](http://www.facos.org)
- American College of Surgeons  
[www.facs.org](http://www.facs.org)



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## General Surgery Fellowships

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The following fellowships are available for those interested in subspecialization in general surgery:

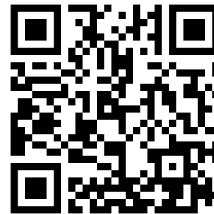
- Complex General Surgery Oncology
- Hospice & Palliative Medicine
- Pediatric Surgery
- Surgery of the Hand
- Surgical Critical Care
- Sleep Medicine

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## Career Counseling

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If you are interested in learning more, please feel free to meet with the UIWSOM Career Counselor, Dr. Martin Timoney in A113 in Building 1. Scheduled appointments and walk-ins are both welcome. You can schedule an appointment directly onto Martin's calendar by scanning the QR code below. You can also email him at [timoney@uiwtx.edu](mailto:timoney@uiwtx.edu) or call him at 210-619-7074



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## Data Sources

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The information found in this leaflet came from the following sources:

- Association of American Medical Colleges (2019). "Surgery-general." from [https://www.aamc.org/cim/specialty/exploreoptions/list/do/341452/surgery\\_general.html](https://www.aamc.org/cim/specialty/exploreoptions/list/do/341452/surgery_general.html).
- Freeman, B. S. (2019). *The ultimate guide to choosing a medical specialty*. New York, McGraw Hill.
- National Resident Matching Program (2020). *Results from the 2020 NRMP program director survey*. Washington, DC.
- National Resident Matching Program (2019). *Results of the 2019 NRMP applicant survey*. Washington, DC.
- National Resident Matching Program (2020). *Charting outcomes in the match: Senior students of U.S. Osteopathic medical schools*. Washington, DC.

# General Surgery



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## Residency Fact Sheet 2020/2021

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SCHOOL of  
OSTEOPATHIC  
MEDICINE

Office of Admissions & Student Affairs

## Residency Basics

Mean COMLEX 1 (2020)	585
Mean USMLE 1 (2020)	231
Preliminary Year	No
Residency Length	5 Years
Number of Programs (2020)	330
Percentage of Programs that typically offer interviews to DO students (2020)	57%

## Lifestyle Overview

Median Salary	\$334,000
Average Work Hours per week	59.4
Average Weeks Worked per Year	47.7

## Top 5 Factors Cited for Selecting Programs to Apply to (2019)

- Desired geographic location (85%)
- Perceived sense of compatibility with program (84%)
- Reputation of the program (84%)
- Program located at an academic medical center (75%)
- Career paths of recent program graduates (72%)

## Top 10 Factors for Selecting Candidates for Interview (2020)

1. USMLE Step 1 scores (90%)
2. Letters of recommendation in the specialty (88%)
3. USMLE Step 2 CK score (86%)
4. Personal statement (81%)
5. Grades in desired clerkship specialty (71%)
6. Leadership qualities (69%)
7. (=6) Evidence of professionalism and ethics (69%)
8. (=6) Other life experience (69%)
9. Perceived commitment to the specialty (67%)
10. (=9) Personal prior knowledge of the applicant (67%)
11. (=9) Grades in core rotations (67%)

## Top 10 Factors for Ranking Applicants in the Match (2020)

1. Interactions with faculty during interview (95%)
2. Interpersonal skills (95%)
3. Feedback from current residents (88%)
4. Interactions with house staff during interview (83%)
5. USMLE Step 1 score (78%)
6. Perceived interest in program (73%)
7. USMLE Step 2 CK score (71%)
8. (=7) Letters of recommendation in the specialty (66%)
9. Leadership qualities (66%)
10. Evidence of Professionalism & Ethics (59%)
11. (=10) Personal Statement (59%)
12. (=10) Other life experience

## Interpreting the Data

- General surgery is a competitive specialty which will require evidence of strong academic ability and very good board scores.
- USMLE scores are valued by program directors in general surgery and DO applicants should consider taking USMLE exams.
- Involvement in research, especially research relating to surgery, can be a helpful addition when applying general surgery program (Freeman, 2019).
- Letters of recommendation are valued highly by program directors. Applicants should have three strong letters from surgeons (Freeman, 2019).
- It is important to perform well in all core rotations. It is important to aim for an honors grade in the surgery rotation.
- As prior knowledge of the applicant is valued by program directors, it is probably advisable that you would seek to carry out audition electives at surgery programs that you are especially interested in.
- Involvement in community engagement projects that display leadership skills, the ability to work well in a team, a strong work ethic, and the ability to accomplish goals can be of benefit for applicants to general surgery programs.