

American Academy Of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

The American Academy of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine was founded in 1997 in Minnesota, with the aid and support of many people and institutions in China and the United States. The Shandong University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Jinan, China, provided a model for the authentic curriculum, instructional methods and standards of practice adopted by the Academy. In 1999, the first group of students were accepted into the program, and 2003 saw the first graduating class. Graduates of the Academy receive a Master of Science degree in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine after completing a rigorous four-year academic and clinical-training program. The goal of the program is to integrate the best of traditional and modern medicine, training health care professionals to pursue a career of lifelong learning and service to the community.

Since its founding, the American Academy of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (AAAOM) has established itself as a leader in traditional Chinese medicine education and clinical services in the midwest. Students in our program absorb traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) therapeutic modalities including acupuncture, Chinese herbs, Tui Na, dietary therapy, Tai Chi and Qigong. Over ninety percent of our graduates become licensed and active practitioners of acupuncture and Oriental medicine, thus bringing the fruits of their education to an ever-expanding patient base.

The Academy is justly proud of its distinguished faculty members, many of whom hold Ph.D. degrees in their area of specialty. The faculty has collectively published over five hundred books, papers and clinical manuals, contributing significantly to the advancement of TCM theory and practice. Another highlight of the AAAOM campus is its library, which holds over ten thousand volumes of texts and one hundred fifty journals in acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine. By 2011, in its fifteenth year of existence, the American Academy of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine has graduated over one hundred thirty students. We look forward confidently as we continue to advance the practice of Chinese medicine in the twenty-first century.

Landmarks and Highlights

- 1997 American Academy of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine founded in Minnesota.
- 1999 AAAOM opens its doors to the first class of matriculating students.
- 2000 AAAOM is honored with “Best Faculty” award by *TCM World* magazine in its “Best of the West 2000”.
- 2001 AAAOM moves from University Technology Center in Minneapolis to its new campus in Roseville.
- 2001 AAAOM becomes a candidate for graduate school accreditation.
- 2002 *Twin Cities Wellness* cites AAAOM as the “Mayo Clinic of Eastern Medicine” on its front page.
- 2002 AAAOM receives approval to award the degree of Master of Science in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.
- 2003 AAAOM is recognized for “Best Curriculum” and as “Best New School” by *TCM World* magazine.
- 2003 AAAOM presents its first graduating class with Master of Science degrees!
- 2003 AAAOM is approved as a fully-accredited graduate school by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.
- 2004 Number of publications by AAAOM faculty swells to 450, including research, textbooks, reference books, clinical experience and public education.
- 2005 AAAOM organizes the editorial board for the *International Journal of Clinical Acupuncture*.
- 2005 AAAOM opens its first specialty clinic: the Multiple Sclerosis Clinic is operated by AAAOM graduates and faculty members.
- 2006 AAAOM enhances its program and faculty by emphasizing five specialty areas: TCM Neurology, TCM Gynecology, TCM Dermatology, TCM Immunology and TCM Gastroenterology.
- 2006 AAAOM faculty publishes ten volumes concerning classical Chinese herbal prescriptions.
- 2007 AAAOM is re-accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine for a five-year term.

- 2007 AAAOM adds to its specialty clinics with the TCM Infertility Clinic and TCM Dermatology Clinic.
- 2008 AAAOM faculty members complete a three-year project, compiling a ten-volume series of acupuncture manuals covering 700 diseases and health conditions. The manuals are published by Tianjin Science and Technology Translation Company.
- 2009 AAAOM publishes thirty-two more volumes of classical Chinese herbal prescriptions.
- 2009 A delegation of Chinese medicine experts from the China Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine from Beijing visits AAAOM.
- 2009 AAAOM celebrates its tenth anniversary. Ninety students have graduated since the school's inception.
- 2010 AAAOM increases its offering of advanced courses, including acupuncture techniques, Chinese medicine gynecology, and analysis of classical textbooks.
- 2010 AAAOM publishes twenty volumes detailing classical acupuncture points.
- 2010 Ding Ganren's great-grandson, professor Ding Yie from Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, visits AAAOM as a guest lecturer, presenting seminars based on Ding Ganren's medicine.
- 2010 AAAOM faculty members initiate regular lunch-hour seminars covering a variety of acupuncture and Chinese medicine topics.
- 2011 AAAOM continues its publications regarding classical Chinese herbal prescriptions with an additional thirty-one volumes.
- 2011 Professor Liu Yanchi from Beijing University of Traditional Chinese Medicine visits AAAOM and presents seminars on healthy aging with Chinese medicine.
- 2011 AAAOM initiates a student-faculty discussion group, "Chinese Medicine in the Classical Spirit," exploring innovative breakthroughs in the history of Chinese medicine.
- 2011 AAAOM prepares for the re-accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.