

Allan Olson, D.O.  
Administrator of Osteopathic Admissions  
Colegio Universitario San Judas Tadeo  
College of Medicine and Surgery  
121 Lakewood Lane  
Marquette, MI 49855  
aothedo@yahoo.com

Dear Applicant:

Please find attached an application to the above named school of medicine in San Jose, Costa Rica. I would suggest filling it out, printing it and sending it with the application fee made payable to CROMA (Costa Rica Osteopathic Medical Association, [www.cro-ma.org](http://www.cro-ma.org)). If you have already filled out an application at [www.aacom.org](http://www.aacom.org) and can download and print it, this would be an acceptable alternative. MCAT scores and transcripts should be requested to be sent to the above address. The completed application and fee should also be sent to the above address. Also, a supporting letter from a D.O. would be helpful. We hope to have an entering class in the fall, 2006.

As you may already know CROMA was formed with the purpose of establishing unlimited practice privileges in Costa Rica for Osteopathic physicians thereby broadening the medical care in Costa Rica and the educational experience for medical students. You will find that there is a much greater emphasis on community medicine in Costa Rica which I believe is consistent with Osteopathic philosophy, as well as the future of medicine in the U.S.

This medical school is well established having graduated M.D. students for a number of years and is fully accredited through the Universidad Federada in Costa Rica. The University has a relationship with NOVA Southeastern University in Miami, FL which offers a wide range of degrees. Graduates of the Colegio Universitario San Judas Tadeo routinely pass the U.S. Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) which is accepted by all states in the U.S. for licensure. You would be licensed as a M.D. We hope to pursue accreditation with the American Osteopathic Association so that as graduates you could be licensed as a D.O. or M.D. Your degree would be both D.O. and M.D. I believe the advantage immediately is having the Osteopathic training

The tuition for Osteopathic students at this school is \$5,000/year. Unfortunately, students who study abroad are ineligible for federal financial assistance. We are studying this situation. Some current suggestions would be to explore private sources, benefactors, etc. We are exploring the possibility of providing loans with deferred payments. The tuition is roughly one-half the going rate at private U.S. Osteopathic schools. Students would be expected to have some proficiency in Spanish. Taking an immersion course in the summer prior to matriculation should be sufficient. These are offered in many Latin American countries. There is a high rate of literacy in Costa Rica and many speak English.

I hope this letter answers all questions, but if not, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Allan L. Olson, D.O.