



International Diploma Animal Osteopathy

Equine & Canine Streams

2025-2026





International Diploma in Animal Osteopathy

2015 hours

Tuition: \$7,000 USD

Special offer: \$4,200 USD



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in learning animal osteopathy at LCAO! Studies have shown that regular osteopathic treatment effectively prevents and treats mobility issues in equines and canines caused by rigorous physical activity, aging, or injury.

Incorporating animal osteopathy into your practice can help you grow your business as more people seek holistic treatments for themselves and their pets.

This prospectus details the program structure, curriculum, fees, faculty information, and other pertinent details. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact info@lcaosteocollege.com or [schedule a call](#) with an LCAO admissions advisor.

Program Overview

The program curriculum teaches **classical structural osteopathy**, rooted in a holistic healing philosophy.

You will deepen your knowledge of animal sciences, including in-depth courses in functional anatomy and biomechanics, essential for any animal osteopath. Under the mentorship of Prof. McGregor, you will cultivate a systematic, analytical approach to osteopathic diagnosis and treatment.

You will learn specific manual techniques for restoring mobility, enhancing conditioning and performance, and increasing overall vitality in horses and dogs of all ages and breeds. A special focus is placed on the evaluation and treatment of lameness and post-surgical care.

Awarded Qualification

Upon fulfilling the program requirements and obtaining the qualifications of an **Animal Osteopath**, students are granted the **Int'l DipAO designation**, a highly respected and globally recognized title among animal health professionals. Visible, clear osteopathic training and practice standards.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Developed by Stuart McGregor, DO, AO
- ✓ Endorsed by veterinarian community
- ✓ Flexible learning format
- ✓ Individual mentorship and support
- ✓ Easy to use eLearning platform.
- ✓ Lifetime access to future updates
- ✓ 2,000 students across 72 countries



All photographs included in this prospectus showcase LCAO students and instructors.



RACHEL PECHEK

Canine & Equine Osteopath

LCAO's Head Instructor, Preclinical Studies

"I am honored to be part of the LCAO teaching team, and I look forward to seeing you in class!"



Practicing Animal Osteopathy with an LCAO Diploma

The LCAO certification as an Animal Osteopath (Int'l DipAO) allows you to practice equine and canine osteopathy either independently or as part of an integrative healthcare team anywhere in the world. Many graduates opt to collaborate with veterinarians and veterinary surgeons, delivering post-surgical care and rehabilitation services.

Admissions requirements

Admission to the program is through the application process. We welcome a diverse range of professionals interested in expanding their practice to include osteopathic care for animals:

- DVM/VMD, animal physiotherapists, and chiropractors;
- Osteopaths, students of osteopathic programs, osteopathic manual therapists (OMTs);
- Registered human MSK practitioners (i.e., massage therapists, physiotherapists, osteopathic manual therapists;
- Members of the veterinary community (i.e., vet techs, vet nurses, vet rehab specialists).
- Animal bodywork practitioners with 5+ years of experience;
- Animal professionals with 5+ years of experience (i.e., farriers, breeders, behaviour specialists, acupuncturists, nutritionists and TCM practitioners).
- Students and graduates of an Animal Science degree or related program.
- Mature students with 10+ years of experience in the equine or canine industry.
- Accomplished Equestrians from any riding style.

If your occupation is not included in the categories mentioned above, please contact us at admissions@aosteocollege.com so we can assess your eligibility.

Program delivery format

Upon enrolling, you will gain access to LCAO's eLearning platform. There are no deadlines for completing courses, giving you the freedom to advance through your studies at your own speed.

Additionally, as a graduate, you will have lifetime access to all learning materials and updates, allowing you to refer to them in your osteopathic practice whenever necessary.



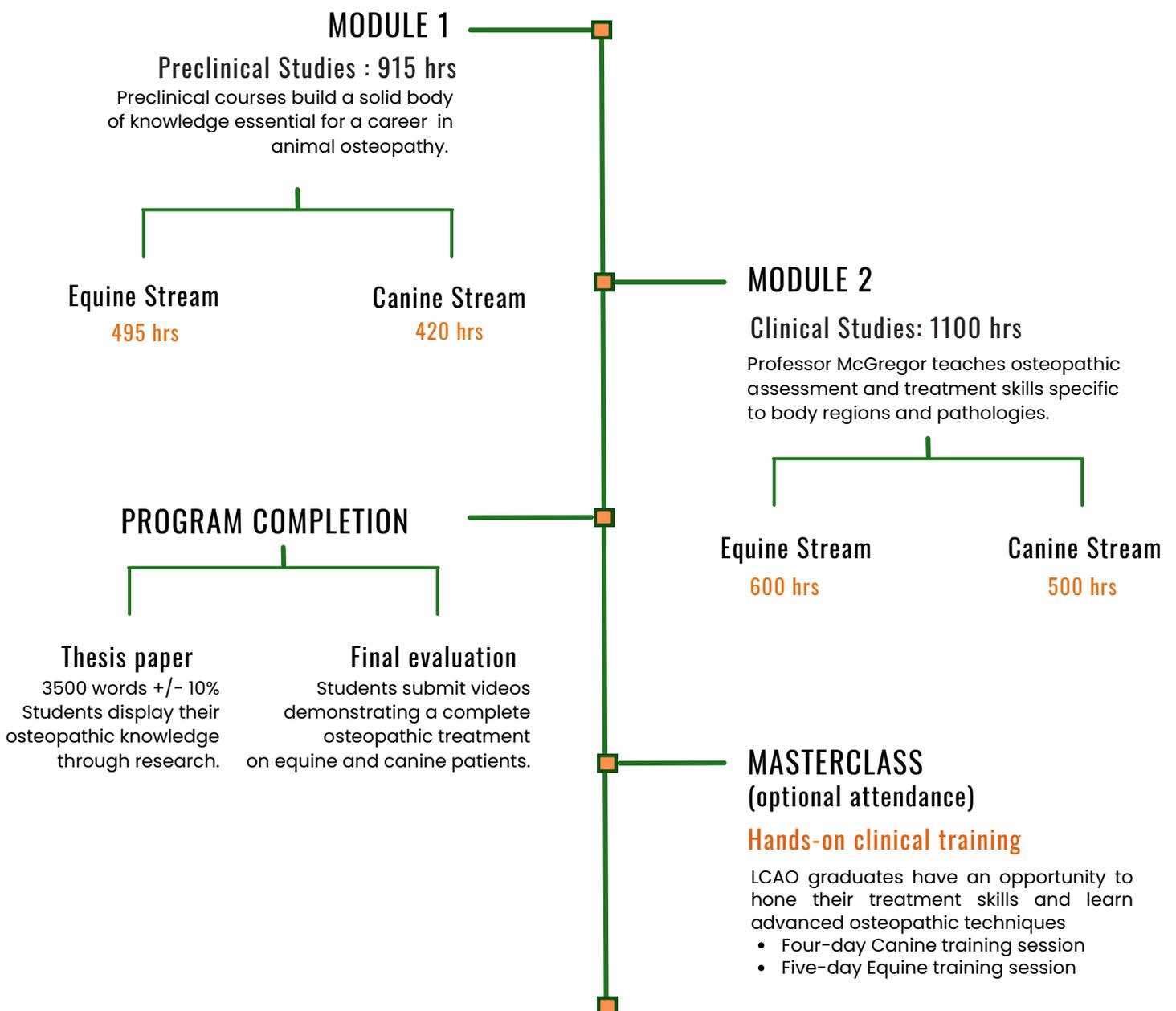
Professor McGregor personally mentors and guides you through the clinical portion of the program, ensuring that you gain competence and skills in delivering osteopathic treatment.



Program Structure & Curriculum

The program curriculum consists of **two online learning modules**. The first Module includes fourteen preclinical courses that build the core knowledge essential to any animal osteopath. In Module 2, you will learn osteopathic assessment and treatment skills necessary to provide competent and effective osteopathic care to horses and dogs of all ages and breeds. After completing both modules, students are awarded the certification of **Animal Osteopath (Int'l DipAO)**.

The Masterclass is an **optional part** of the program available annually in various locations worldwide. Over nine intensive clinical days, you will practice on approximately 50 dogs and 25 horses. Under the mentorship of experienced osteopaths, you will sharpen your treatment skills and learn advanced osteopathic techniques not taught online. Participation in the Masterclass is highly **recommended** but **not required** to graduate with the International Diploma in Animal Osteopathy. To read more, please download a Masterclass Prospectus on page 11.





MODULE 1 : Preclinical curriculum / Core Knowledge / 915 hrs

You'll be granted access to [LCAO's eLearning platform](#) when you enroll. This secure and easy-to-navigate platform provides self-paced learning content to balance your personal and professional commitments. As an LCAO graduate, you retain lifetime access to all coursework and future updates, which you can reference in your osteopathic practice whenever necessary. You will be supported by course instructors accessible via email, online forums, and video conferencing.

1. Philosophy & History of Animal Osteopathy | C-PHO | 30 hrs



This course covers the history of healthcare from ancient times to its modern practice of osteopathic therapy. You will examine the core principles of osteopathic medicine and the distinct characteristics of the osteopathic treatment approach. You will learn about the significance of physical observation and palpation and get acquainted with the various techniques employed by osteopaths to treat animals.

2. Osteopathic Models of Health & Disease | C-OHD | 30 hrs



The OHD course explains the fundamental principles of osteopathy, its unique approach to health and disease, and the five structure-function models of osteopathic care. The core tenets of osteopathy will be explored further, particularly regarding spinal motion and somatic dysfunctions. You will further examine the techniques used by osteopaths, including their physiological principles, indications, and contraindications for osteopathic therapy.

3. Equine Systemic Anatomy & Physiology | E-SAP | 95 hrs

4. Canine Systemic Anatomy & Physiology | C-SAP | 75 hrs



Profound anatomy and physiology knowledge is of utmost importance for anyone involved in animal healthcare. Anatomy (structure) and physiology (function) are interconnected and impact the body's movement, digestion, susceptibility to illnesses, and injury recovery. A thorough understanding of the healthy functioning of organs is necessary to evaluate an animal's overall health accurately. This course provides comprehensive coverage of all body systems, with a special focus on the locomotion system and its critical role in maintaining the animal's quality of life.

5. Equine Functional Anatomy & Biomechanics | E-FAB | 95 hrs

6. Canine Functional Anatomy & Biomechanics | C-FAB | 75 hrs



Both courses examine anatomy and biomechanics in relation to movement and function. You will study the 'normal' organization and structure of the musculoskeletal system that underpins function, especially while in motion. Muscles and muscle groups are described in terms of their functional anatomy: origin, insertion, innervation, vascular supply, and the actions the muscle group is responsible for. At the end of the course, you will be able to analyze the biomechanics of movement on a structural level and recognize compensations due to physical restrictions.

7. Equine Neurophysiology | E-NPS | 85 hrs

8. Canine Neurophysiology | C-NPS | 70 hrs



Neuroscience studies the brain, a complex organ that controls thinking, learning, voluntary movement, and posture coordination. Like humans, the animal brain interprets and integrates information the body receives. You will examine the nervous system of a horse and a dog and the complex circuits that allow them to perceive and react to stimuli. You'll review the anatomy and physiology of a single neuron, the neural junction, and the main nerves and their functions.



MODULE 1 : Preclinical curriculum (cont.)

9. Equine Pathology & Diseases | E-EPD | 95 hrs **10. Canine Pathology & Diseases | C-EPD | 90 hrs**



The field of pathology examines abnormal or unwanted conditions, whereas pathophysiology delves into how diseases or injuries impact the body's functions. This course concentrates on more than one hundred disorders that dogs and horses may experience throughout their lifespan. It offers comprehensive insights into the causes, symptoms, progression, prevention techniques, and treatment options available for these disorders. Additionally, the course sheds light on orthopedic conditions, their distinct considerations, and the fundamental principles, indications, and contraindications for osteopathic therapy.

11. Equine Behaviour & Psychology | E-EPD | 40 hrs **12. Canine Behaviour & Psychology | C-EPD | 30 hrs**



To effectively work with animal patients, it is crucial to have a solid understanding of their behavior, body language, and gestures. In this course, we will cover a detailed analysis of instinctual and learned behaviors. We will examine internal and external factors that can lead to abnormalities, and explore various techniques to prevent and manage aggressive behavior in healthcare settings. Additionally, we will focus on developing effective communication skills with dogs and horses of diverse breeds and temperaments.

13. Equine Clinical Assessment | E-CCA | 55 hrs **14. Canine Clinical Assessment | C-CCA | 50 hrs**



The course covers the stages of an osteopathic clinical assessment. You will learn the protocol for taking a case history and performing a physical examination, which involves palpation, gait analysis, and identifying signs of lameness. You will learn how to assess the equine hoof, a crucial weight-bearing structure pivotal to equine health. An introduction to canine neurological assessment and tutorial videos demonstrating basic neurological tests and their interpretation are included. By the end of the course, you will enhance your critical thinking skills and be able to recognize contraindications to treatment.

VISUAL ANATOMY TOOL

LCAO students receive a complimentary one-year subscription to Ivaldlearn.com, an exceptional educational platform tailored for veterinary and animal health students.

Accessible via both app and desktop, this platform offers cutting-edge, interactive 3D visual content designed to deepen your understanding of canine and equine anatomy.





MODULE 2 : Clinical studies | Assessment, Techniques, Treatments | 1100 hrs

The clinical module, led by Professor Stuart McGregor, is designed to develop your osteopathic diagnosis and treatment skills. Each learning unit focuses on a particular anatomical area, offering an analytical and systematic approach to treatments that align with your therapeutic objectives. You will be supported throughout your entire learning journey.

- ✓ *Online lessons: recorded lectures & video tutorials*
- ✓ *3D visual anatomy review*
- ✓ *Digital video transcripts; additional readings and handouts*
- ✓ *Professor McGregor personally reviews students' videos & provides feedback*
- ✓ *English subtitles are provided in all lectures and video tutorials*

CANINE Clinical studies: 500 hrs

- Unit 1. Assessment skills/Palpation and evaluation*
- Unit 2. Treatment of the Forelimb*
- Unit 3. Treatment of the Hindlimb*
- Unit 4. Treatment of the Spine*
- Unit 5. Functional Technique*
- Unit 6. Treatment of the Pelvis*
- Unit 7. Integrated Osteopathic Treatment/ Case Studies*

EQUINE Clinical studies: 600 hrs

- Unit 1. Visual Assessment*
- Unit 2. Palpation*
- Unit 3. Treatment of the Forelimb*
- Unit 4. Treatment of the Hindlimb*
- Unit 5. Treatment of the Neck*
- Unit 6. Treatment of the Back*
- Unit 7. Lesion Patterns*
- Unit 8. Integrated Osteopathic Treatment/ Case Studies*

Final Assessment: Students submit videos demonstrating their skills in performing a full osteopathic treatment on two horses and two dogs. A portfolio containing 10 case studies for Equine and Canine streams (written notes only) must be presented at the end of Module 2.

Clinical skills workbook

This useful learning tool will help you get organized while working on case studies and practical assignments through Module 2. The workbook keeps you focused on learning objectives and offers all clinical forms, templates, and work charts for documenting and tracking your progress.

Instructor support

Professor McGregor mentors clinical module students each step of the way. To ensure the proper performance of a new technique, students submit videos to Professor McGregor, who responds with his feedback and recommendations. You are encouraged to join the Student Forum to communicate directly with your peers and teachers.



ONLINE STUDY GROUPS

Studying independently can be tough, even for committed learners. That's why instructor-led study groups are held weekly to assist you in retaining course material, clarifying complex concepts, and fostering connections with your peers and classmates.



Accreditation

LCAO currently serves 2,000 students across 72 countries and is esteemed as a leading provider of courses and training programs in canine and equine osteopathy. The following national and international organizations have granted LCAO accreditation and/or endorsement:

- American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB)
- American Association of Equine Therapists and Technicians (AAETT)
- Animal Osteopathy Worldwide (AOW)
- Asociación de Osteopatía Veterinaria (AOV) Española
- Equine Therapies Association of Australia (ETAA)
- International Association for Massage and Bodywork/Association of Equine Water Therapy (IAMB/ACWT)
- International Association of Animal Therapists (IAAT)
- International Institute for Complementary Therapists (IICT)
- International Veterinary Chiropractic Association (IVCA)
- International Veterinary Acupuncture Society
- Osteopathy Australia (OA)
- Osteopathic Centre for Animals UK
- UK Rural Skills

MEMBERSHIP IN A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

As a member of the LCAO community, you are entitled to complimentary membership with Animal Osteopathy Worldwide (AOW), along with a listing in the [Global Registry of Animal Osteopaths](#).

AOW is dedicated to promoting equine and canine osteopathy through accredited educational programs, standardized testing, and a commitment to the Member's Code of Conduct.





Stuart McGregor, D.O., AO

LCAO's Director of Clinical Studies
Founder of Osteopathic Center for Animals, U.K.

With its holistic approach, osteopathy focuses on balancing the body to promote health. By using precise techniques to restore mobility, osteopaths can address issues that lead to performance decline, behavioral changes, and physical discomfort, ultimately enhancing the vitality of animals.

Osteo will give you the means to introduce structural therapy, giving you a comprehensive overall assessment and treatment method."

- Stuart McGregor

Stuart McGregor is a leading authority in Animal Osteopathy, globally recognized for his significant contributions to the advancement of the profession.

In 1983, he pioneered a **classical structural approach** to animal osteopathic treatment and authored the first comprehensive work on equine osteopathic care.

Upon graduating from the European School of Osteopathy in 1984, McGregor devoted more than four decades to teaching and practicing, training many animal healthcare professionals working as equine or canine osteopaths in Europe, the Americas, and the Middle East.

Professor McGregor has devoted his career to creating the **Osteopathic Articular Balancing (OAB) method**, which comprises a series of manipulative techniques recognized for their safety and effectiveness in diagnosing and relieving pain and restrictions in joints, muscles, ligaments, and soft tissues.

As the Director of Clinical Studies at London College of Animal Osteopathy, Professor McGregor generously shares his extensive knowledge and experience with animal therapists pursuing osteopathic studies at LCAO.



Mario Soriano, DVM, AO

President of Veterinary Osteopathic Association Spain
Founder of Equicare and Infinity centers
LCAO Director of Veterinary Osteopathic Studies

"Osteopathy offers a comprehensive understanding of living beings in harmony with their nature.

By grasping the philosophy behind osteopathic practice and applying precise techniques, osteopathic practitioners are empowered to promote animal health in a coherent and holistic way."

– Mario Soriano

Mario Soriano received his veterinary certification in 2001 and has dedicated the past two decades to training in various equine and canine osteopathic systems and techniques under the mentorship of diverse Doctors of Osteopathy (DOs). He has adapted numerous techniques for application in veterinary medicine.

Deeply committed to the philosophy of osteopathy, his career is marked by the continuous integration of innovative approaches, particularly in fascial and craniosacral techniques.

In recent years, Mario has concentrated on enhancing equestrian sports performance through osteopathy. This endeavor culminated in his leadership of the Equicare and Infinity centers, where rehabilitation programs are developed based on osteopathic principles.

Additionally, he has spearheaded the establishment of osteopathy units in several veterinary clinics for small animals.

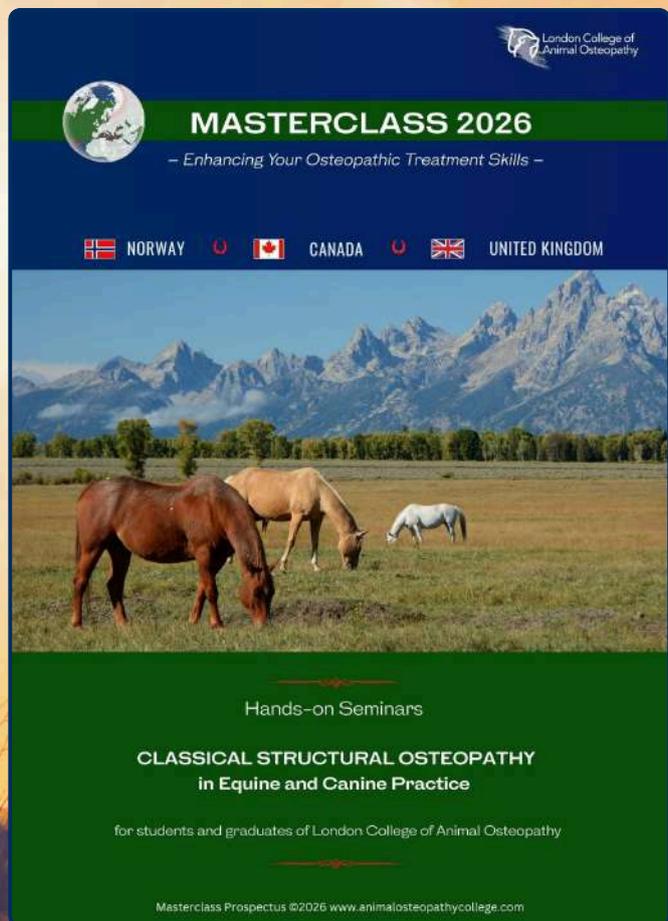
Passionate about teaching and osteopathy, he combines his fieldwork in osteopathy with serving as president of the Veterinary Osteopathy Association, sharing knowledge, and practicing his greatest passion: classical dressage."



Masterclasses 2026

LCAO Masterclasses are held annually in accessible locations for our community of students and graduates. This is an excellent opportunity to enhance your diagnostic and treatment skills while connecting with like-minded professionals from various parts of the world.

Click on the image to download the prospectus.



Under the guidance of Professor McGregor and his team of skilled instructors and practicing osteopaths, you will

- Learn advanced osteopathic techniques that are not taught in an online format;
- Improve your palpation, evaluation, and osteopathic reasoning skills;
- Develop a treatment style relevant to the specialization of your practice.

Please visit [our website](#) to hear from students who have participated in LCAO Masterclasses in recent years.



WHAT LCAO STUDENTS AND GRADUATES ARE SAYING...



I am having a great experience with this program. The organization is top-notch, the tutors are highly qualified, and every faculty member is readily available. I'd like to thank the tech support team for their patience and prompt assistance when I needed help.

Carlotta, DO and Animal Osteopath, Italy



I'm so excited about the Osteopathic Equine Diploma Course... it's superbly put together and extremely engaging! I began my studies with LCAO three months ago and am currently taking pre-clinical courses. The content is quite advanced, but the material is well-explained and supported by clear, concise tutorials and videos that aid in understanding the concepts. The quizzes and exams consist of multiple-choice questions, allowing multiple attempts to achieve the highest possible marks. My learning experience with LCAO has been exceptional, and I highly recommend it to fellow equine therapists.

Alysson, Equine Massage Therapist, USA



I enjoyed my time with the LCAO. The coursework was engaging and delivered well. The tutors and supervisors were very friendly, helpful, and approachable. They were always there to help answer questions as well as offer guidance and support. Overall I would highly recommend the LCAO. I will look into the master class options available and follow up in due course. Thank you for all your help; from the first meeting, it's been a very positive experience!

Eugenia, Veterinarian, Ireland



I am thoroughly enjoying the course—not only is it offering valuable new insights, but it's a great way to reconnect with concepts from previous studies. I'm really impressed by the quality of the content, the delivery, and the support provided. Despite being a distance learning program and having only recently joined, I already feel a strong sense of belonging to an incredible community of professionals, and I'm excited to become a part of it. Thank you once again. I look forward to meeting you in person during the hands-on course.

Tracy, Veterinary Physiotherapist, Cert. Rehabilitation Therapist & Hydrotherapist, United Kingdom

Tuition Fees & Payment Options

Int'l Diploma in Animal Osteopathy (Equine & Canine streams) : \$7,000 USD

Special offer: \$4,200 USD

- Tuition is due upon enrolment
- 5% discount on full payment
- Interest-free option of two payments billed five weeks apart
- Fees are all-inclusive: no surcharges, no hidden costs
- Tax-deductible

Masterclass (hands-on training, nine days): \$2,800 USD

- Optional Attendance
- Available to graduates & students who completed 70% of their program curriculum
- Tuition is due 12 weeks before the Masterclass start date

Payment options

You may choose one of the secure payment options, such as PayPal, Stripe, and bank transfers. Debit or credit cards can be used without creating a PayPal or Stripe account. Tuition fees listed are in USD but can be remitted in your local currency at the current exchange rate. Interac transfers are accepted within Canada.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- Complete the application form.
- Attach documents demonstrating your educational and/or professional background.
- Write a brief personal statement in the application form text box. Tell us about yourself, your current practice, and what drives you to pursue a career in animal osteopathy.
- Submit USD \$50.00 application fee, **refundable upon admission**.
- Your application will be processed within two business days. Select applicants may be invited for an online interview with an admissions officer.

APPLY NOW



[If you have any questions, please use this link to schedule a conference with an admissions consultant.](#)

We look forward to welcoming you to our vibrant community of LCAO students and faculty!

