**What is TOUCH?**
- Program designed to encourage osteopathic medical students to participate in community service
- Program working to promote wellness of a community
- Osteopathic philosophy of “treating the whole person”
  
  *Can include a wide array of involvement that has a strong positive impact on people’s lives*

**What counts?**
- “Community Service” is defined as any activity that works to improve the health and wellness of a community outside of the medical school coursework
  - does not need to be associated with school
  - participation in walks where money is donated to a specific cause
  - medical mission trips (but sightseeing while on your trip does NOT count)
  - does not have to be medically related (Habitat for Humanity, Soup Kitchens)

- Event Planning
  
  Credit for planning a community service activity will be given \( \frac{3}{4} \) hour for every hour involved in the preparation of materials and setup for an actual event, up to 15 hrs per year

  For example, you are organizing a blood pressure check drive and it takes 5 hours to organize venues, volunteers, gather equipment, etc – you will be eligible for 2.5 TOUCH hours

  Administrative tasks during the event (checking students in, registration) are valid for full consideration.

**What doesn’t count?**
- shadowing a physician
- collecting money not associated with event (tabling, fundraising for a club or event)  
  
  *Ex: time spent fundraising for the Alzheimer’s Memory Walk does NOT count, but your time walking, does*
- hours you receive pay for
- participation in events that are not connected with an outside charity or organization

**TOUCH Awards:**
50 hours- Silver Award
100 hours- Gold Award
Most overall hours in the school- Platinum Award

**TOUCH Hour Year: April 1**\(^{st}\), 2014-March 31\(^{st}\), 2015*

*For First years, the year began August 4\(^{th}\), 2014.*
TOUCH Hour Submission
Please have a supervisor sign off on your paper TOUCH form upon completion of your activity to confirm your participation. This form was emailed to you. If you have misplaced it, please email a TOUCH representative (information below). Forms will be due back in March 2016 (details to follow)

Hours must also be logged online within 30 days of the event or they will not count.
TOUCH Online Log: www.cosgp.org/touch and click on “East Division Submission Form”

SOM TOUCH Reps: Kevin Lee and Nazneen Shaikh
Paper Forms are due to Ronak and Danielle in March 2015. Further details will follow.

If you have any more questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us on Facebook, by email (leek1@rowan.edu, shaikhn3@rowan.edu), or by phone:
Kevin-(862)-219-2892 and Nazneen-(609)-240-2742.)