

Student Spotlight

Name: Brooke Smith

School/Degree: A.T. Still University – School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona, Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

What student program were you involved in at HSO? ATSU-SOMA has a clinical partnership with HSO, and 3rd and 4th year medical students rotate through various locations and settings, acquiring important and diverse patient exposure.

What are your career goals/interests? I am currently interested in anesthesiology. Being from Montana, which is both rural and medically underserved, I have a special interest in rural medicine and serving in these types of areas.

What do you like to do in your free time? I love spending time with my 5-year-old Rottweiler, Koda going on walks and swimming in the lakes during the warm summer months. I also enjoy helping my parents on our cattle ranch back home, doing chores ranging from feeding animals to fixing fence.

What's something you've done recently that was out of your comfort zone? Braving the Cincinnati traffic during rush hour. Let me tell you, that has been an adventure of its own.

What made you interested in HSO? My program at ATSU-SOMA has had a clinical clerkship agreement with HSO for some time. The goal HSO has set forth of serving the underserved, no matter their situation, really resonates with the ideals I have for myself as a future physician. I hope to support and help people meet their health goals throughout my education and future career, no matter their circumstance, and working with HSO has helped me to grow and learn how to do this.

Please share your favorite experience while at HSO: While rotating at Highland District Hospital in Hillsboro, I was fortunate to work with various residents of the HSO family practice residency program. During this rotation, I had the opportunity to be involved in performing sports physical exams. I learned what to look for in questioning the student athletes as well as the basics of the physical exam, which the residents helped me with. Being able to utilize the knowledge I have acquired during the didactic years of school and applying it to performing these exams was an exciting connection for me, and the HSO residents were able to help me to do this.

What advice would you share with other students? Medical school is hard, and it can be easy to forget where you started. Take time to thank those who helped you get where you are today and pay that forward by helping those aspiring to be where you are. Always look at the bigger picture!