



## Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Medicine White Coat Ceremony

As you enter medical school you are embarking on a lifetime commitment of service to others. Our goal at Texas Tech Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) School of Medicine is to not only train physicians who are highly competent technically, but who are also exceptionally compassionate, caring, and dedicated to their patients. We believe this training begins on the first day of medical school.

Since 1997, TTUHSC School of Medicine has held a White Coat Ceremony for its new medical students. This ceremony is designed to clarify and highlight for students that a physician's responsibility is to "care" as well as "cure". It was initiated for the entering class of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University in New York City in August 1993 and has become an integral part of orientation activities at most medical schools throughout the country.

During the ceremony, members of the academic medical community cloak students with their first white coats. Students also recite a class composed version of the ancient Oath of Hippocrates, in which they pledge to lead lives of compassion, uprightness, and honor. The ceremony stresses the importance of the doctor-patient relationship and fosters the psychological contract in which the student accepts responsibility to be technically excellent, committed to the profession, and compassionate with patients.

We are extremely pleased to host a White Coat Ceremony for the Class of 2027 on **Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>**. We hope your friends and family will be able to join us for this very special event.