



July 15, 2021

Dear Class of 2025,

I hope all of you are enjoying your summer and are looking forward to starting medical school on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Below are several important updates and reminders related to Year 1 orientation:

- Check-in will begin at **8:00 am in the Academic Classroom Building** on the first floor. Scheduled events for the day will begin promptly at **8:30 am**.
- **Attendance at all daytime orientation sessions is required.**
  - Appropriate dress for the first day is business casual – no shorts, T-shirts, jeans, or flip-flops please.
- **Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>** there will be a student organization fair at the **Helen DeVitt Jones Sculpture Court** (inside TTU Museum located at 3301 4<sup>th</sup> St.). This will be your primary opportunity to learn about and sign up with School of Medicine clubs.
- **Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup>** is “**Alma Mater T-Shirt Day**”. One way to get to know your new classmates is to check out their school spirit swag!
- **Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**, the [Scopes & Scrubs Party](#) will be at the University Center on the TTUHSC campus from 10 am – 12 pm. Dress is casual. RSVP for this event no later than **Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>** by calling **806-743-1485** or emailing [TTUHSICALUMNI@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:TTUHSICALUMNI@ttuhsc.edu).
  - **Each MS 1 will receive a customized stethoscope** to welcome you to the TTUHSC family as a special gift to the Class of 2025 from TTUHSC alumni and friends 😊
- **Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>** the White Coat Ceremony will occur at **1:30 pm** at the **Buddy Holly Hall of Performing Arts and Sciences**. Business attire is appropriate. Up to 10 guests per student can attend at this event.
- Student enrichment and preparation for academic success are important aspects of our School of Medicine mission. With that in mind, there are a few items we ask incoming students to complete **prior to MS 1 Orientation**.
  - Set of surveys to assess learning preferences. Please refer to the welcome letter (attached to this email) from Dr. Allison Perrin, Director for the Office of Student Affairs, regarding how these surveys are intended to help you (and us) understand your study behaviors and perceptions about learning.

- Dr. Simon Williams, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, makes the following request:

In order to be fully prepared for the coursework you will experience in the medical school curriculum, we encourage you to explore the theory and practice of learning by taking a course on the online learning site, Coursera. The course is called “Learning how to Learn: Powerful Mental Tools to help you master tough subjects” and is presented by learning experts at the University of California, San Diego. The course is free (as long as you don’t sign up for the certificate) and is self-paced. In this course you will learn specific techniques to enhance your study and learning strategies, improve memory and avoid procrastination, among other skills. I think you will find this course to be a valuable experience. Many current students have given it positive reviews. The course can be accessed at [www.coursera.org/learn/learning-how-to-learn](http://www.coursera.org/learn/learning-how-to-learn). You can start it at any time. This course is not a requirement, but we think you will learn valuable skills by completing it.

- Parking permits are required if you will be parking a vehicle on campus. Print out and place the temporary parking permit (attached to this email) on your dashboard for SOM orientation (7/28 – 7/30/21). **Permit is valid for the [F3 parking lot](#) only.** Please be aware if you park in any other location your car will be subject to a citation.
  - A parking permit for the 2021 – 2022 academic year can be [purchased online](#). Do not purchase your parking permit before 8/1/21 to avoid paying for the month of July.
- All required [immunizations](#) and [institutional training modules](#) must be completed prior to orientation. Contact the [TTUHSC Office of Institutional Health](#) for any questions regarding required immunizations.
- Personal health insurance is [required](#) for all students enrolled in a TTUHSC degree program. TTUHSC students will be charged for health insurance each semester when billed tuition and fees. If a student has private health insurance that meets specific criteria a [waiver](#) request can be submitted on the [Academic Health Plans website](#). A flowsheet from the TTUHSC Office of Student Life detailing the student health insurance is attached.

We very much look forward to getting to know you over the next few years. Please let us know if we can be of any help as you prepare to start your medical school adventure.

See you soon,



Lauren Cobbs, M.D., M.Ed.