



# White Coat Ceremony

## Frequently Asked Questions

### WHITE COAT CEREMONY CLASS OF 2024 FAQ'S

#### What is the date of the White Coat Ceremony?

The White Coat ceremony will be held on Friday, September 3, 2021

#### Where is the White Coat Ceremony being held? How long will it last?

The Michigan Opera Theatre (aka) the Detroit Opera House is located at 1526 Broadway, Detroit, MI 48226. The ceremony will begin promptly at 11 a.m. and will conclude at approximately 1 p.m.

### TICKETING QUESTIONS

#### Do I need to RSVP?

Yes, all students must RSVP. We need to know whether you are coming or not by July 25, 2021. Please complete the RSVP form located on the invitation.

#### How many people can I bring?

Each student can bring up to four guests. You will select the number of tickets that you need on the RSVP form. The RSVP link will close on July 25th. You will not be able to go back into the RSVP form and change the number of tickets that you need after that time. If you do not use all four tickets they will be reallocated as extra tickets to students that have requested them. Tickets are required upon entry.

#### What if I need more than four guest tickets?

You can request one or two extra tickets on the RSVP form. Each RSVP form is time stamped so extra tickets will be given on a first come first serve basis. We will not know how many extra tickets we have until every student's RSVPs so please make sure to send it in by July 25th. You will receive an email by July 28th letting you know if your extra ticket request has been granted.

#### Will I need a ticket to enter?

Yes, students will need a ticket to enter the venue. You will receive a ticket for yourself when you pick up your guest tickets. Your ticket is not included in the four guest tickets that you are eligible to receive. (For example, if you RSVP for 4 guests you will receive 5 tickets when you pick them up.)

### **When and where can I pick up my tickets?**

If you cannot pick up your tickets, you can have someone else pick them up for you. They just have to sign for them.

Ticket pickup is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 23rd from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., and Tuesday, August 24th from 2 – 5 p.m. Both pickup dates will take place in the Scott Hall Cafeteria.

## **COATING QUESTIONS**

### **My white coat does not fit is there still time to exchange it?**

There is still time to exchange your white coat if you need a different size. Just come to Student Affairs, Suite 315 Mazurek, and we can take care of that for you.

### **Can I have a family member or mentor coat me?**

Yes, as long as your coater is an M.D. or D.O. they can coat you. You must indicate that you have a coater on your RSVP form by July 25th . One coater per student is allowed unless you have multiple family members that are WSU Medical Alumni in which case we will need to know the year that each graduated.

### **What if I do not have a family member/mentor that is an M.D. or D.O.? Who will coat me?**

If you do not have a physician coater, one of the SOM faculty will coat you as you cross the stage.

## **CEREMONY QUESTIONS**

### **When should students/coaters arrive at the ceremony?**

The doors to the Detroit Opera House will open for seating at 10 a.m. When you (and your coater, if applicable) arrive, just enter the main floor seating area, and we will have ushers available to assist you.

### **What is the recommended attire?**

The dress code is professional/interview attire. Also, please do not wear suit coats, blazers or jackets underneath your coat.

### **Can I bring a purse, handbag, cell phone or camera with me?**

We recommend personal belongings be left with family or friends. You cannot carry personal items on stage.

### **Do I wear my white coat to the ceremony?**

No. Please make sure your white coats are neatly pressed or dry cleaned beforehand.

On the day of the ceremony, you can either carry your coat or have it on a hanger (which you can store underneath your seat). We recommend that you do not wear your coat that morning, in order to avoid wrinkling.

### **Should I have my “coater” wear their White Coat?**

Your coater is encouraged to wear his/her physician’s white coat.

### **How will we be lined up?**

You will be seated with your coater (if applicable) in alphabetical order in the front section of the auditorium.

### **What is the “run of show” for the ceremony?**

- Welcome and Introductions
- Remarks
- Keynote Speaker
- Presentation of White Coats
- Recitation of the Declaration of Commitment
- Closing Remarks

### **Will I be individually recognized during the ceremony?**

Yes, each student will be called by name to the stage to don his or her White Coat.

### **How can I insure that my name is pronounced correctly?**

We ask that all students use NameCoach to voice-record your name pronunciation for the ceremony. Using this free online tool can greatly reduce the chance of name mispronunciation:

- Visit the link below where you will type in your SOM email address, first and last name, and the phonetic spelling of your name.
- Select your class year from the dropdown menu.
- Next, enter your phone number and the system will call you and prompt you to record your name pronunciation.
- You can re-record your name as many times as you like until you are comfortable with how it sounds (be sure to speak slowly and clearly, with minimal background noise).
- Once your name is recorded and saved in the system, hang up, then press "Submit" on the website to finalize your entry.

Once you are done, our reader can download the recording and practice your name pronunciation so it can be read correctly at the Ceremony.

Please visit the NameCoach website using this link: [NameCoach](#)

### **What happens during the presentation of white coats?**

Students will be seated together in the front section of the auditorium. If you have a physician coater, he/she will be seated right next to you, and you will both process to the stage. Our staff will direct you, row by row, to the left side of the theatre and then to the backstage waiting area. As you wait, please remain in alphabetical order, with your coat unbuttoned and draped over your arm to avoid wrinkling. Also, please keep your voices lowered. This ensures that all students can hear their name being called, and keeps the Ceremony flowing smoothly.

When your name is called, you will walk to the stage and stand on the marked spot. One of the SOM Dean's or your coater will take your coat and place it on you. Please remain in place for a brief picture and then continue walking across the stage.

Once you are coated, you will then proceed backstage where you will take another photo, receive a copy of the Oath of Commitment, and be ushered back to your seat.

### **Is there a video so that I can see how the coating works?**

Here is a link to view last year's Ceremony to see how coating takes place: <https://youtu.be/wO7EEXSPIX4>

## **GUEST QUESTIONS**

### **Where can I find information on directions and parking?**

The Opera House Parking Center is located at 1426 Broadway Street, with entrances on John R. Street and E. Grand River Avenue. For directions to the Parking Center, please visit this site: <https://michiganopera.org/plan-your-visit/parking-directions>

### **How much is parking?**

The fee in the deck is \$10.00 per car (credit cards only). There are also multiple independent lots in the area. Valet parking is not available for this event.

### **What is the attire for guests?**

The dress code is business/casual attire.

### **Is the Opera House wheelchair accessible?**

The Opera House has full wheelchair accessibility. Just ask one of the ushers for assistance.

### **Can I bring an infant or small child?**

Yes, however if the child requires a seat, they will need a ticket to enter.

**Will there be souvenirs?**

Before the Ceremony begins, you and your guests will have the opportunity to purchase souvenir keepsakes from the WSU SOM Alumni Association, and take family photos from Graduation Foto.

**Will there be professional photographs taken? Can we purchase the photos?**

Professional photographers will be taking photos of each student as they are coated and backstage either individually or with their coater. There will also be an opportunity to take family photos before or after the ceremony. The student will receive an email with instructions as to how to access these photographs for themselves and their families after the ceremony. There will also be SOM photographers taking candid shots for promotional purposes.

**Will this event be livestreamed?**

No, this event will not be livestreamed.

**May I take photographs or video?**

Yes, personal photography is permitted. We ask that all aisles and walkways be kept clear and that you are courteous of other guests. Guests are not permitted backstage or in front of the seating area.

**Will there be food and drinks at the Ceremony?**

No, however there are a number of restaurants in the area.

## **SAFETY QUESTIONS**

**Is the WSU Screener required for entry?**

Yes, as of today's date, students must complete the Campus Daily Screener.

**Are there any Covid protocols in place at the Detroit Opera House?**

Yes, if you are unvaccinated you must wear a face mask.

**If I have additional questions who should I contact?**

Please contact or Nicole Collier [ncollier@med.wayne.edu](mailto:ncollier@med.wayne.edu) or Allison Gherardini [agherard@med.wayne.edu](mailto:agherard@med.wayne.edu).