



Class of 2018 White Coat Ceremony

The Program in Physical Therapy will be holding its annual White Coat Ceremony on Saturday, April 2, 2016 in Alumni Auditorium (first floor Black Bldg.) at 1:00 PM. A reception will immediately follow the ceremony in Bard Hall, First Floor Lounge, which will accommodate food and drink to meet all types of dietary preferences.

The White Coat Ceremony signifies the beginning of your clinical career as a physical therapy student. The ceremony creates a psychological, intellectual, and ethical contract for the profession and promotes empathy in the practice of physical therapy. It is a day to focus on integrity, excellence, compassion, altruism, respect, empathy, and service.

Columbia University is the only physical therapy program that has such a ceremony for first year students that is sanctioned by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation in conjunction with colleagues at Columbia University College of Physician and Surgeons. The Gold Foundation initially developed the ceremony for medical students at Columbia and later expanded it to every medical school in the US. Physical Therapy at Columbia was added by the Foundation in 1999.

In front of family, husbands, wives, significant others, friends and faculty you will be donning your white laboratory jackets and receive name pins and Arnold P. Gold Foundation pins. Mary Jean Taylor PT, PCS, Director of University Wellness and an adjunct faculty member of the program will be the keynote speaker.

The reception is gratis for you and up to 6 guests (do not include yourself in the guest total and children under 12 are excluded from the guest total). If some of your classmates do not use their total guest allotment, those wishing to invite more than 6 guests will have the extra guests spread equally among all those requesting additional invitees. Once the guest allotment total has been reached, additional guests can be invited to the reception at the cost the program pays per person for the reception. You are free to invite as many guests as you desire to the ceremony,

For parents and other guests coming from out of town, the closest and nicest hotel is the Edge Hotel at 168th and Audubon and Hotel Lucerne at 79th and Amsterdam, which has a discount rate for Columbia.



Please print and complete page 3 of this memo with your intended number of guests and dietary preference(s) by **Monday, February 29** and return to Mrs. Cynthia Worthington.

In addition, page 3 also requests for you to indicate how you want your name tag to read. Your name tag will need to be worn during clinic visits scheduled as part of your course work and throughout your clinical affiliation experiences to identify you as a Columbia DPT student. For example, Kate instead of Kathryn is permissible.

Now is the time to stop in the CUMC Bookstore and order your white jacket in plenty of time for the ceremony. You will order the Unisex Lab Coat. This short lab jacket must be white. Here is the link to the bookstore:

<http://columbia-med.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/ProductSearchCommand?displayImage=N&catalogId=10001&langId=-1&storeId=44062&extSearchEnabled=G&search=white%20lab%20jacket>

You may also order your jacket online.

Links:

[White Coat Sizing Chart](#)

[Directions and Info](#)

[Local Columbia University hotels](#)

[Columbia University Medical Center Map](#)

[Parking](#)



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**WHITE COAT CEREMONY
SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2016**

Name: _____

I will be bringing _____ guests to the ceremony and reception (**do not include yourself in this total**).

I will be bringing _____ children under 12.

My dietary reference is (please check)

____ No preference

____ Kosher

____ Vegetarian

____ Vegan

Indicate any dietary restriction/allergy _____

**The dietary preferences for my guests are:
(please check and respond accordingly)**

____ No preference for _____ guests

____ Kosher for _____ guests

____ Vegetarian for _____ guests

____ Vegan for _____ guests

Indicate any dietary restriction/allergy _____

My name tag should read: _____

Return to Cynthia Worthington by Monday, February 29, 2016.

Thank you.