Program

Prelude					
Instrumental version as sung by Taylor Swift					
Processional					
Welcome					
Posting of ColorsUAFS ROTC Color Guard					
White Coat Ceremony HistoryKristin Williams, MSN, RN Nursing Instructor, University of Arkansas - Fort Smith					
White Coat Ceremony SpeakerDawn Watts, MBA, BSN, RN CEO Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Fort Smith					
presentation of white coats					
Leslie Rylee, MSN, RN Lisa Bailey, DNP, RN					
Name Reader					
oath to compassionate patient care Holly Needham, Evening Cohort Jwpkqr Class President White Coat Recipients					
Student Representative MessageMeg Sandlin, CEE Class Presiden					
Closing MessageSonia Romero, DNP, RN Assistant Executive Director, School of Nursing					
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the oath

As a Nurse dedicated to providing the highest quality care and services, I solemnly pledge that I will:

Consider the welfare of humanity and relief of suffering my primary concerns;

Act in a compassionate and trustworthy manner in all aspects of my care;

Apply my knowledge, experience, and skills to the best of my ability to assure optimal outcomes for my patients;

Exercise sound professional judgment while abiding by legal and ethical requirements;

Accept the lifelong obligation to improve my professional knowledge and competence;

Promote, advocate for, and strive to protect the health, safety, and rights of the patient.

With this pledge, I accept the duties and responsibilities that embody the nursing profession.

I take this oath voluntarily with the full realization of the responsibility with which I am entrusted by the public.

history of the ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony is designed as a rite of passage to emphasize the importance of compassionate patient care at the very start of training. In addition to reciting the oath, students come forward during the ceremony to be "cloaked" before family and friends in the iconic white coat that signifies their status as healthcare professionals.

The White Coat Ceremony was initiated in 1993 at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians & Surgeons by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation. Arnold P. Gold, MD, a Columbia professor, believed that the oath to compassionate patient care taken by new physicians at the end of medical school came too late. Today, nearly every medical school in the United States, hundreds of nursing schools, and many other health profession schools participate in this tradition of humanistic care.

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