



SUNY
DOWNSTATE
Medical Center

University Hospital of Brooklyn
College of Medicine
School of Graduate Studies
College of Nursing
College of Health Related Professions

Division of Student Affairs

Office of Admissions

July 20, 2006

To the Family Members of the Class of 2010

Enclosed with this letter is an invitation to attend our Twelfth Annual "White Coat Ceremony" which will celebrate the entrance of the Class of 2010 (class entering August, 2006) as apprentices into the profession of medicine. Started by Dr. Arnold Gold, the White Coat Ceremony is: "designed to clarify that a physician's responsibility is not only to take care of patients, but also to care for patients. It encourages the students to enter into a psychological contract in which they accept the obligations inherent in the practice of medicine: to be excellent in science, to be compassionate, and to lead lives of uprightness and honor." (from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation) We hope that you and your family members will be able to attend the ceremony. Please RSVP by sending an email to studentaffairs@downstate.edu or RSVP via **fax to 718 270-7592** (with the same information as required on the RSVP card) or RSVP via the response card enclosed with the invitation.

There are several other important items of which I would like to make you aware:

1. Thursday, August 17, 2006

a) **Parents and Family Members Orientation Meeting:**

On the same day as the White Coat Ceremony, the College of Medicine will be hosting an information session about the first year of medical school, for parents and family members of all entering students, at 11 a.m. in Lecture Hall I of the Basic Science Building.

b) **Spouse/Significant Other/Spouse Equivalent Meeting:**

On the same day as the White Coat Ceremony, medical school couples will host a meeting at 11 a.m. in Lecture Hall 1B of the Health Science Education Building to describe what might be expected during the first year of medical school and beyond.

2. **Welcome to the SUNY Downstate Family!**

You can order sweatshirts from the SUNY Downstate Bookstore over the web. The bookstore is listed on the institutional website (<http://www.downstate.edu>) under the "Campus Services" link on the homepage. In addition to buying SUNY Downstate merchandise, you can set up a bookstore account for your medical student. However, we advise that no books be purchased until the week of Orientation.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to send an email to the Student Affairs Office at studentaffairs@downstate.edu, or to send a **fax to 718 270-7592**; or send an email to admissions@downstate.edu. We are looking forward to meeting you on August 17th!

Sincerely yours,

Lorraine Terracina, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President of Student Affairs
and Dean of Students

State University of New York Downstate Medical Center

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