

## What makes the incoming class unique?

00:06

So this is a great class of 180 students. They were chosen from 4000 applicants. They have a GPA of 3.76. One thing that's a bit unusual is that the percentage of women keep going up there's 104 women and 76 men as compared to our first class, when there were 33 men and three women. 15 of them are in the family medicine accelerated track, our most innovative primary care track in the country. 12 of them are doing the MD MBA. 40 students come from Texas Tech 25 come from UT Austin. But there's 46 different schools that are represented and they come from previous jobs, Marines, firefighters, missionaries, educators, beauty pageant winner, musicians, concert pianist, lots of different diverse backgrounds. So it's a group of students that we're very proud of. They have great credentials. But I will say there's also a few students who we're also proud of who applied to medical school, two or three times, never got in, kept working on their MCAT kept working on their education. And we're really proud to have them here today as well.

## What is the white coat ceremony and why is it different this year?

01:45

So the white coat ceremony is intended to welcome medical students into the profession of medicine, and to make them take an oath as they put on their white coat and notice that they will always put the Patient first, that they'll take care of all patients, even those who are vulnerable or contagious or difficult that they'll begin a career of lifelong learning that they will commit themselves to being great teachers have their patients. We've learned that lately how important it is for physicians to also be teachers of the public, to have a great work ethic work ethic, and to be committed to doing their very best every day. So that's what the white coat stands for. And in the past, it's always been a great opportunity to thank family members and spouses for the sacrifices that they've made for these students. We always say if you see a turtle on a fence post, you know, it didn't get there by itself. So normally the white coat ceremony is for the family members to Who have a great deal of pride on this day. And so we want them to know even though they can't be with us today, that we know how important it is for them, as well as for their children or spouses.

## Why was it important to make sure this event continued?

03:22

Well, of course, we were very disappointed that we can't do the white coat ceremony like we normally do it. But our rules to guarantee that nobody is in danger of giving getting COVID-19 is to wear masks and be six feet apart. So we couldn't have the normal white coat ceremony like we would have in an auditorium. So this was the next best thing we could come up with, that the students would drive through in their cars, and we would welcome them. We would give them their white coat. We would give them the Texas Tech stethoscope and we would congratulate them on what is essentially the first day of medical school.

How has COVID-19 changed the way the School of Medicine is training and educating students?

04:17

