



## At Georgetown University School of Medicine, students fund world-class medical education by serving their country

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The White Coat ceremony marks the start of another medical school year at Georgetown. Students from across the country begin their four-year journey toward an MD degree with a sense of excitement, wonder and awe.

However, some students will wear a different uniform upon graduation – one that depicts their commitment to our country and military service. Among our medical ranks are Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP) students, individuals who have earned an Army scholarship that pays for their tuition, books and fees for medical school.

Medical school students may pay for their medical education with scholarships, grants or student loans. And every year, Georgetown University School of Medicine welcomes a new group of HPSP students representing numerous branches of the military.

Georgetown students have enjoyed an Army connection since the 1860s, when a Georgetown faculty member in the Army of the Potomac received the Congressional Medical of Honor. Since then, Georgetown has seen a steady flow of physicians leave our campus to enter careers in the US Army, the Navy and the Air Force. Not only have these students received a world class education, they have served our country with dignity and respect.

Each year on graduation weekend, we hold a separate commissioning ceremony for students in all three branches of the US military and their families. From 10 to 20 percent of our graduating class will take the Oath of Military service along with the Oath of Hippocrates. At that commissioning ceremony, I have the great honor to join with senior leadership of military medicine and the HPSP students to honor their commitment to our country.



Every Army scholarship student joins for their own reason, from love of country to family tradition to relief from the high cost of medical school. But they also love medicine and want the ability to treat and heal Soldiers who put their lives on the line for our country. It is a privilege to watch these remarkable men and women grow as doctors and embark on a rewarding career.

