

MEDICAL STUDENT PLEDGE OF ETHICS

Similar to the Hippocratic and other oaths taken by those graduating from a medical school, the Medical Student Pledge of Ethics prepares students for the four years ahead of them.

- I publicly acknowledge and accept the privileges and responsibilities given to me today as a physician in training and dedicate myself to provide care to those in need.
- I will approach all aspects of my education with honesty and integrity, embracing opportunities to learn from patients, teachers, and colleagues.
- I will always maintain the highest standards of professional conduct.
- I will certify only that which I have personally verified, and I will neither receive nor give unauthorized assistance on examinations.
- I will value the knowledge and wisdom of the physicians who have preceded me.
- I will recognize my weaknesses and strengths and strive to develop those qualities that will earn the respect of my patients, my colleagues, my family, and myself.
- I will respect the humanity, rights and decisions of all patients and will attend to them with compassion and without bias.
- I will maintain patient confidentiality and be tactful in my words and actions.
- I will value the diversity of patients' experiences, cultures and beliefs because it enhances my ability to care for them and enriches my education.
- I will not forget that there is an art to medicine as well as a science and that warmth, sympathy and understanding are integral to patient care.
- I will strive to earn the trust my patients place in me and the respect that society places upon my profession.
- I will recognize the privileges afforded to me as a physician-in-training and promise not to abuse them.
- Even as a student I have a responsibility to improve the standard of health in my community, to increase access to care for the underserved and to advance medical knowledge.
- As I accept these new responsibilities, I will not forget the importance of my own health and well-being.
- I will continue to value my relations with those who have supported me in the past and those who will share in my future.
- Knowing my own limitations and those of medicine, I commit myself to a lifelong journey of learning how to cure, relieve and comfort with humility and compassion.
- I make these promises solemnly, freely, and upon my honor.
- Adapted with permission from the University of Texas-Houston Medical School "Student Ethical Pledge."