

# ORIENTATION 2020

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## Welcome Entering Class of 2020!

Dear admitted students,

We are so excited that you've all chosen to spend your next four or more years here at Pritzker on the South Side of Chicago! As Orientation Co-Chairs, we are here to make sure you are prepared for the exciting events we have planned this year for Orientation. This year, orientation begins on Thursday, August 6, 2020, and we can hardly wait.

This is the first of three mailings designed to smooth your transition into medical school. These mailings will include information on things like housing, classes, life at Pritzker, apparel, and hospital credentials. We encourage you to take the time to go through each mailing as there will be some tasks *required* of you all. You can also find the mailing materials on the orientation website:

<https://pritzker.uchicago.edu/page/mailings>. While the mailings will have some action items, they should not be stressful. So please reach out to us if you have any concerns or need clarity on any tasks at our shared email: [psorientation2020@gmail.com](mailto:psorientation2020@gmail.com), or individually at any of our e-mails below!

Here is an overview of what you will find in this mailing:

- A letter from Deans Brukner and Carter regarding COVID-19 and how Pritzker is planning to support you all when we start in August
- A newsletter that gives a review of Pritzker's community-wide volunteer efforts to address COVID-19 in the South Side of Chicago.
- Information about our four Pritzker societies and a greeting from our MS23 Society Leaders—all of whom would love to answer your questions about housing, life in the city, and more!
- A housing flyer with helpful online resources and a link to the MS24 roommate finder Google document
- Information about disability services.
- A fun compilation of some really good book recommendations by the Pritzker Book Club - for your enjoyment and **not** required!

We want to formally relay to you all two changes that are happening with Orientation 2020 due to the pandemic and social distancing guidelines. First, the school and hospital have postponed proof of immunization requirements. You will be receiving information about those forms later in the summer, so don't worry about it right now. Second, the White Coat Ceremony that is typically held at the start of medical school has been postponed. We understand that this may be disappointing, but know we are committed to making your entry into

the medical field just as meaningful as ours was. We hope to reschedule this ceremony at a time when we can safely gather as a group.

Rest assured knowing that there are ongoing discussions and multiple contingency plans being made that will address important components to the start of your medical school journey. These discussions include but are not limited to changes to the scheduling of the White Coat Ceremony, curriculum planning for the Summer Quarter, and retaining the strong community that makes Pritzker such a special place. We will continue to keep you informed as things develop.

We want you all to know that **We're All in this Together** - a message that is an homage to our teenage days spent wishing we were East High School Wildcats *and* the theme to this year's orientation. Through thick and thin, pandemic, rain, and shine, we are a community that stands in support of one another! No matter how the year starts, we are here for you.

The three of us are immensely excited to continue to get to know you. Facebook stalking just doesn't cut it! You all are entering a phenomenal community that will have your backs throughout all the unknowns that come with medical school (and pandemics)! Enjoy the contents of this mailing and be on the lookout for all future ones coming your way! And please (please) feel free to reach out to us at any time if you have any questions or concerns.



Your 2020 Orientation Co-Chairs,

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