

# Xavier University School of Medicine – Aruba welcomes Fall 2025 Medicine, Veterinary, and Nursing cohort with Orientation & White Coat Ceremony

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Xavier University School of Medicine, Aruba (XUSOM), proudly welcomed its Fall 2025 cohort of Medical, Veterinary, and Nursing students with a comprehensive Orientation Week, culminating in a unified White Coat Ceremony held on September 8, 2025. The event marked a profound milestone in the professional journeys of future physicians, veterinarians, and nurses as they donned their first white coats symbols of

trust, service, and clinical responsibility.



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The event, held at the Xavier University Auditorium, united students, faculty, families, and local community members. Orientation week featured a range of activities, including a welcome meet-and-greet, academic preparation sessions, island tours, and social events organized by the university.

*“The White Coat Ceremony underscores our commitment to preparing ethical, compassionate, and competent healthcare professionals who are ready to serve communities across the globe,” said **Ravi Bhooplapur, President of XUSOM**. “To every new student stepping into our classrooms this semester-whether in medicine, veterinary medicine, or nursing-know that your journey here matters. You have chosen a path of service, science, and compassion. Xavier University is here to equip you with the skills, values, and resilience you need to*

*thrive. You are now part of a family that believes in your potential and your purpose."*

*"The white coat is more than just a fabric-it represents a lifelong dedication to healing, continuous learning, and leading with integrity. As you embark on your academic journey, remember that true excellence in healthcare goes beyond knowledge-it is rooted in empathy, ethics, and accountability. We are privileged to be part of your transformation into skilled, compassionate professionals,"*

**said Dr. Prasad Vijayashankar, Dean of Basic Science at XUSOM.**

This year's White Coat Ceremony was made even more impactful by the inspiring keynote address from Dr. Israel Posner, former Minister of Health, Aruba & Board of Trustee for Xavier University who offered profound insights on the vital role of compassion, resilience, and ethical practice in healthcare. His words served as a powerful reminder of the significant responsibility that comes with being a healthcare professional, and how each of us has the ability to make a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve.

The Fall 2025 cohort represents a diverse group of aspiring healthcare professionals from around the world, united by their shared commitment to healing-whether for humans, animals, or communities. Xavier University's integrated approach to medical, veterinary, and nursing education fosters interdisciplinary collaboration and real-world preparedness from the very beginning.

For more details on Xavier University School of Medicine visit: [XUSOM Website](#)

