

<b>Title of Policy/Procedure:</b> Undergraduate Dress Code	<b>Approval Responsibility (Title &amp; Name):</b> Jeanean Boyd, DNP, RN, Chair of Undergraduate Nursing
<b>Approved by (Title &amp; Name):</b> Jeanean Boyd, Department Chair	<b>Last Date of Approval:</b> May 2023
<b>Communication Requirement and Date:</b> Posted on CONHI website and in BSN Handbook. Presented in Canvas Orientation. Changes communicated to students	<b>Date for Next Review:</b> May 2026
<b>Official SharePoint Location Name and Path:</b> UG Policies and Procedures <a href="#">Undergraduate - UG Policies and Procedures - All Documents (sharepoint.com)</a>	<b>Comments:</b> Policy discussions initiated in Student Affairs. Dress code posted on CONHI and published in BSN Handbook

The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing expects students to reflect professionalism and maintain high standards of appearance and grooming in the clinical setting. Clinical faculty has final judgment on the appropriateness of student attire and corrective action for dress code infractions.

**Students not complying with this policy will not be allowed to participate in clinical. Students, if unsure about uniform guidelines, should contact their faculty. Failure to comply with the requirements below may result in an unexcused clinical absence and/or negative clinical evaluation and may result in a clinical failure.**

Clinical settings include the skills lab and a simulated environment. Students must wear their uniform when in the clinical (hospital, lab, or facility setting). All aspects of the policy should be followed when in “dress code”.

## General Guidelines

### Uniforms

- **Solid navy-blue** scrubs or hospital-required color. If a clinical site requires a different scrub color, this will be communicated directly to you by the Program Manager(s) or Clinical Faculty.
  - o No flair or decorative trim allowed.
  - o Scrubs can be purchased anywhere, such as a scrub store, general merchandise store or online.
- **Solid navy-blue scrub jackets are permitted.** Scrub jackets with hoods or outer fleece) are not permitted.
- UTA insignia patch sewn on the left upper sleeve of scrub top and scrub jacket. The patches can be purchased at the UTA Bookstore (<https://www.bkstr.com/texasatarlingtonstore/home>)

- White or black long or short sleeved turtleneck or crew neck T-shirts without logos or advertisements may be worn under scrub tops.
- Uniforms must be clean and not wrinkled.
- Scrubs cannot be tight/form fitting and must be loose enough to allow adequate movement for role in clinical setting/lab.
- Scrub pants may not drag on the floor & length must be below the ankle & cover socks. Jogger-style and low-rise scrub pants are not allowed.
- Dresses or skirts must be knee length or longer.
- Undergarments and/or cleavage must not show when leaning or bending over. Rolling down the waist band of scrub pants is prohibited.
- Head coverings must be solid white, navy blue, or black in color and without adornment or fringe. The covering may not occlude/cover the face.
- Students will refrain from wearing student uniforms to non-UTA related activities (restaurants, shopping, etc.). If uniform cannot be changed then UTA patch needs to be covered with sweater or jacket.
- Students should **not** smoke while in their uniform as the smoke can cling to clothes and be an irritant to patients.
- Students cannot consume alcoholic beverages while in uniform.

#### **Shoes and socks**

- Shoes are to be closed-toed, closed heel, clean and in good repair. Open-toed or open heel shoes are prohibited for safety concerns.
- Shoes must be white or black and made of a material that will not absorb bio-hazardous materials and that can be cleaned.
- Solid white or black hose/socks are required and must cover the ankle. The color of the shoes and socks must match.

#### **Student Identification**

- The UTA Student Picture ID is to be worn above the waist and in clear view when in uniform with a retractable badge reel or per clinical facility policy.
- ID badge must have "Nursing". ID badges can be obtained through [Mav Express](#) (hyperlinked)
- The College of Nursing ID must be worn in all clinical and lab settings.

#### **Jewelry**

- Watches, wedding rings only, and one, small stud earrings per earlobe (no dangling or hoops) may be worn.
- Decorative necklaces and bracelets are not permitted. Only Medic alert necklace/bracelet is permitted to be worn during clinical/lab.
- No body piercing jewelry or spacers are permitted, except for one stud earring per earlobe (as noted above). Nose piercing jewelry must be removed or covered. No exceptions.
- Students must have a watch with a second hand.

- Hair is to be clean, neat, and well groomed. Hair/bangs cannot hang down in student's face/front when leaning over. Shoulder length hair or longer must be pulled back behind the ears and off the neck in a ponytail or other contained style.
- Males must be clean-shaven or facial hair/moustache and beards neatly trimmed.
- Hair must be of a color found in nature (no pink, blue, etc.).
- Hair clips, bands, etc. shall be functional, and not decorative (no bows). Colors of headbands must be white, navy blue, or black.

### **Nails**

- Nails are to be clean, groomed, and manicured.
- Artificial nails are prohibited in the clinical setting.
- Nails are to be cut to the tip of the finger and groomed.
- No fingernail jewelry or polish.

### **Other**

- Makeup will be subdued. Personal hygiene including oral care, daily showering/bathing, and the use of deodorant/antiperspirant is expected.
- No perfume, cologne, after shave, essential oils, or scented lotions are to be worn. Badge reels cannot contain any perfumes or scents.
- Gum chewing is not permitted.
- Cell phones, tablets, and other such technology shall be utilized only out of patient care areas. Cell phones must be turned off during clinical and left in the student's purse or backpack unless required by clinical faculty to communicate.
- Tattoos must be covered and not visible.

### **UTA Student Identification**

- The College of Nursing ID must be worn in all clinical and lab settings.
- The UTA Student Picture ID is to be worn above the waist and in clear view when in uniform with a retractable badge reel or per clinical facility policy.
- Neck lanyards and scented badge reels are not allowed.
- No other ID should be attached to the UTA College of Nursing ID, nor should the UTA ID be worn in settings other than clinical. The only exception to this is when a facility specific ID is required by the clinical setting

### **Pre- or Post-clinical Experiences in the Health Care Setting**

- Students may be required to attend conferences or visit the clinical areas as part of their course requirements.
- Students will wear uniform scrubs or navy scrub jacket with name badge and UTA school patch.
- Professional dress will be worn under the scrub jacket.
- The following items will be avoided in the clinical areas: jeans, shorts, sandals, jogging/athletic suits, t-shirts, ball-caps, etc.
- Students are not allowed to change from their uniform before the end of clinical, labs, or exams.

### **Clinical settings requiring street clothes**

- Professional attire is expected. Jeans/western cut pants, sweatshirts, sweatpants, pajama pants or tops, shirts of underwear type, see-through clothing, sleeveless shirts, or any clothing which exposes a bare midriff, back, chest or underwear are prohibited. Skirt length must be knee length or longer.
- Tattoos must be covered.
- Scrubs may not be worn in areas requiring street clothes.
- Appearance must be clean and neat.
- Students in agencies where scrubs are provided should follow the above standards prior to changing into scrubs.

### **Professional Presentations**

For workshops/seminars attended by students, professional/business attire will be worn.

- Women: Professional attire: suit or jacket with pants or skirt, blouse, shoes and hose or trouser socks, simple jewelry.
- Men: Professional attire: Suit or jacket with slacks, traditional shirt with collar, tie, socks, dress shoes and matching belt.
- Avoid denim, jeans, T-shirts or other casual clothes, flip flops, athletic shoes.

### **Ceremonies/Graduation**

- Women: Professional attire as above or dressy (dress, dressy separates, nice fabrics and dress shoes) but conservative, not revealing and a modest length. Shoes should be comfortable to wear walking up and down stairs.
- Men: Professional attire as above (suit, jacket, tie, nice fabrics and dress shoes).
- Avoid denim, jeans, T-shirts or other casual clothes, flip flops, athletic shoes.
- Caps and gowns should not have offensive or inappropriate adornment or embellishment

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