



Dress Code

A clean, neat, and well-groomed professional appearance is expected of all nursing students when in the clinical setting. Consideration is to be given to clients (patients) acceptance of appearance. It is an expectation that nursing students will consistently comply with the dress code policies of each agency to which they are assigned for clinical experience(s). **WARNING:** Violations may result in the dismissal of the student from the clinical setting.

- *Name Tags/ID Badge:* A name tag/ID badge is to be worn by all students whenever in the clinical setting. Pictures for ID badges will be taken at individual campus orientations. If for some reason you do not get your picture taken at that time, please contact [Paulette Mellecker](#) (Ashland campus).
- *Jewelry:* Jewelry worn should not interfere with job performance and client safety. Earrings are limited to one pair of stud-type style only. Dangling earrings, necklaces, bracelets, or rings, which can catch or scratch are not acceptable.
- *Body Piercing:* No face (tongue, eyebrow, nose, chin, etc.) jewelry is allowed.
- *Tattoos:* Tattoos are to be covered when possible.
- *Hair:* Hair, beards, and mustaches are to be clean, neat, and well-groomed. Hair should be worn off the shoulders and away from the face when the style is such that it may obstruct visual acuity and/or affect client safety. Hair ties are to be conservative in size and color. Fad hairstyles and hair dyed in unnatural colors are not allowed.
- *Fingernails:* Fingernails are to be kept short, clean, and well manicured with no jagged edges. Clear or a pale neutral color polish is acceptable. Chipped, very dark or bright-colored nail polish is inappropriate. Artificial nails of any kind are not permitted.
- *Perfume/Aftershave/ Odors:* Any strong odor, including halitosis and cigarette smoke, is unacceptable in the care of the ill or recovering person.
- *Shoes:* Shoes are to be white, clean, safe, and in good repair with closed toes and closed heels. Heels are to be a safe height with quiet soles. White athletic shoes of substantial construction to provide adequate protection may be allowed (i.e., leather or leather/canvas). Clogs, sandals, open-toed, open-heeled shoes, non-white or white with colors, or any other footwear that could cause injury while performing tasks are unacceptable.
- *Hose/socks:* Hose, white or beige toned, are to be worn with skirts or dresses. White socks may be worn with uniform or scrub pants.
- *Standards for Community Agencies:* The dress code of each individual agency shall serve as the guideline for students. It is recommended that students check with either the clinical instructor and/or the agency in question prior to the actual clinical experience.
- *Visiting an Agency:* Unless otherwise indicated, when visiting a clinical agency or the hospital for any official purpose (i.e., to select client(s) for the next clinical day or for other designated occasions) students are to wear a white lab coat over appropriate clean, neat street clothes. A name tag must be worn with the lab jackets.

NOTE: No jeans, grubbies, sweatshirts, sweatpants, jogging bicycling exercise/dance tights, shorts, miniskirts, or multicolored "in-fashion" pants are allowed. Clothing that shows midriffs or cleavage (including spaghetti strapped tank tops) is unacceptable. Choose clothes that allow for freedom of movement such as reaching, stretching, stooping and lifting while maintaining a professional image. When in doubt, wear your uniform or dress conservatively.

Remember, a nursing student's appearance is a direct reflection of his/her attitude regarding the profession of nursing; and this, in turn, is a reflection on the OHSU School of Nursing Program. Because you are students, and not employees of any of the clinical agencies where you may do your clinical experiences, faculty have the discretion to decide what is considered professional attire, and will counsel any student if necessary.