

## POLICY TITLE: UNDERGRADUATE DRESS CODE FOR CLINICAL SETTINGS

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Faculty Sponsor(s): Undergraduate Faculty

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### Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to provide standards of practice for UCCS nursing students as it pertains to dress code and appearance in clinical settings. The faculty at UCCS are committed to ensuring all students promote an appearance that is professional to instill confidence, trust, and respect in patients and their families. It is important that nurses dress in a professional and appropriate manner and are clearly identified as health care professionals.

This policy applies to all UCCS nursing students who provide patient care in clinical areas, activities for clinical courses or events, and experiences in the Simulation Learning Center. Course and clinical faculty have the responsibility of monitoring student compliance to the policy. Students who fail to adhere to the dress code policy may be asked to leave the clinical area and the missed clinical hours will count as a clinical absence. Refer to the Undergraduate Nursing Student Handbook for the Clinical Attendance Policy for missed clinical hours and clinical make-up.

The consequences of violations of the Undergraduate Dress Code for Clinical Settings will be the initiation of a Performance Improvement Contract – Professional Behavior (PIC-PB), refer to the complete policy in the Undergraduate Nursing Student Handbook.

### General Dress Code Guidelines for All Clinical Settings

1. Clothing should fit properly, be clean and neat, in good condition, and of length and style that does not interfere with performing clinical duties.
2. Student uniforms are to be purchased from the UCCS Campus Store (Bookstore). For the acute care setting this includes the top and pants. For the non-acute care setting, the polo shirt is purchased at the UCCS Campus Store. These uniforms should be purchased the first week of the semester and it is recommended that they be tried on before purchasing.
3. Undergarments must be worn and should not be visible through clothing.
4. All students will wear the UCCS Johnson/Beth-El Photo ID and/or agency provided name tag which will be affixed to the uniform top near the shoulder.
5. Hair should be clean, professional in appearance, in a naturally occurring color, and styled appropriately for a professional setting. Hair should be worn back away from the face and secured to not interfere with professional duties. Long hair must be confined. Sideburns, beards, and mustaches must be short, neat, clean, well-trimmed, and follow the contours of the face.

6. No hats or bandanas may be worn on the head. Headbands are allowed in neutral colors (excluding mental health clinical settings).
7. Jewelry: Jewelry must not come in contact with patients, jeopardize or interfere with patient safety and must be discreetly worn.
  - a. The only facial jewelry allowed is for ear lobe and ear cartilage. All other facial piercing jewelry is not allowed including eyebrow, lip, nose, cheek, and tongue.
  - b. Only small studs for the ear are acceptable. Studs should not cover the earlobe and no dangles and/or hoops are allowed.
  - c. Clear gauged or plug earrings can be worn but must be less than ¼ inch in diameter.
  - d. Other jewelry permitted includes wedding rings, watches, and medic alert bracelets.
  - e. Please know that agency leadership may at any time request removal of jewelry if it is considered a safety hazard.
8. Footwear: Solid black shoes (without additional colors), which can include a black sport shoe, must be worn with uniforms. Shoes should be closed toe and back and have skid proof and non-marking soles. Shoes should be clean, well-polished and in good repair. Shoes should be water-resistant, and cleanable. Solid black socks or stockings must be worn with footwear in clinical.
9. Fingernails must be natural only, with no covering, coloration or enhancements of any type including artificial nails, extenders, and wraps. Nails can be no longer than ¼ inch in length.
10. Perfume and gum chewing are not permitted in the clinical setting.
11. Tattoos are allowed, however, tattoos that can be perceived as offensive, vulgar, depict nudity or violence, contain slogans, logos or do not align with an environment of mutual respect and values will need to be covered while in a clinical setting. Please know that agency leadership may at any time request that tattoos be covered.
12. Jeans cannot be worn at a clinical site.
13. Students should confer with lead faculty about any cultural dress or grooming accommodation.

#### Undergraduate Nursing Department Uniform for Acute Care Clinical Settings

1. All students will wear a scrub uniform that is embroidered with the UCCS Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Beth El College of Nursing and Health Sciences logo.
2. A long-sleeved, solid white t-shirt can be worn under your white scrub top. No prints or other colors should be worn. The shirt must be long enough to keep body covered during flexion.
3. A plain white scrub jacket may be worn with the uniform in accordance with hospital policy and must also be embroidered with UCCS Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Beth El College of Nursing and Health Sciences logo. This is the jacket which will be presented to students during the White Coat Ceremony.
4. The full black and white uniform is required for all hospital visits, including going to the hospital to pick up patient assignments.
5. Students will be allowed to wear Pro Packs/Nurse Packs in the clinical setting in the color of their choice.

#### Undergraduate Nursing Department Uniform for Non-Acute Care Clinical Settings

1. Pants: Black scrub pants as defined in the Acute Dress Code Policy. NOTE: Low rise, cargo, form fitting pants, jeans or leggings can never be worn as a part of a uniform.
2. Shirts: Black long or short sleeved polo style shirt with College Logo. The shirt must be long enough to keep body covered during flexion.

3. A long-sleeved, solid black t-shirt may be worn under the black polo shirt. No prints or other colors are allowed.
4. Determination of use of acute vs. non-acute uniform will be made by the course lead faculty for any non-acute clinical course, educational, or college activity.

Policy Exemption

Students in NURS4450 (RN-BSN) will not wear the UCCS uniform or polo. Students enrolled in NURS4450 are required to follow the dress code of their assigned agency and wear their UCCS photo ID Badge.