

STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE

Responsible administrator: Associate Dean for Academic Programs

Last updated/reviewed: 8/5/2021

Upon acceptance and entry into Auburn University's Harrison School of Pharmacy, students begin a process of developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes that comprise the fundamental core of the profession of Pharmacy. Although assimilation of competencies and transformation to Doctoral Pharmacy Practitioners takes several years, early initiation of professional behaviors facilitates the developmental and professionalization process.

Just as all obligations and responsibilities of the profession require some effort and sacrifice, assumption of a professional image requires an active individual resolution and may necessitate modification of life-style practice upon entering the professional program. By entering the Harrison School of Pharmacy, students willingly accept the obligations of the profession and are expected to act accordingly. Abiding by the standards of attire at the Harrison School of Pharmacy is a component of the educational process that internalizes esteem and emphasizes professionalization.

The following Standards for Professional Attire apply to all professional students enrolled in Auburn University's Harrison School of Pharmacy Doctor of Pharmacy Program. These standards should be followed during regular business hours from 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Part I. General Personal Care Standards

1. Adequate precautions should be taken to maintain good personal hygiene. These precautions include regular bathing, use of deodorants and regular dental hygiene.

2. Hair

- Women: neat and clean, styled off the face and out of the eyes. If close contact with patients occurs (e.g. physical assessment procedures), hair longer than shoulder length should be secured.
- Men: neat and clean, styled off the face and out of the eyes. If close contact with patients occurs (e.g. physical assessment procedures), hair longer than shoulder length should be secured. Beards and mustaches should be clean and well groomed.

3. Other personal care considerations

- Cologne, perfume or aftershave is not recommended in the patient care setting due to patient allergies and sensitivities.
- Cosmetics should be used in moderation.
- Nails should be well groomed, manicured and of short to medium length to facilitate patient care activities.
- Jewelry and accessories should be non-distracting.

Part II. Appropriate Standards of Professional Attire for Harrison School of Pharmacy Attendance

1. Attire – Clean, business styled clothing and shoes

- Women
 - Dresses/Skirts should be no shorter than 1 inch above the knee.
 - Blouses/shirts should fit so that cleavage coverage is maintained.
 - Leggings may only be worn with a dress or skirt that comes down to 1 inch above the knee.
- Men
 - Shirts must be collared and tucked in.

2. Badges

- An official identification badge must be worn on the student's person; the student's name must be visible at all times.
- Identification badges must be worn around the chest pocket level or on a professional lanyard around the neck. Lanyards should not be adorned with pins, stickers, badges, patches or other objects.
- Badges should never be worn on backpacks, around the belt, or below the waist.

3. Items specifically **not permitted** under any condition include the following:

- Hats or caps (except head coverings considered a part of religious or cultural dress)
- The use of ear buds/head phones while in class, meetings/group activities, or during presentations by outside speakers
- Denim colored pants (i.e. blue jeans), or pants that are faded/distressed, have patches or holes
- Shorts, cargo pants, culottes, skirts or mini-skirts or Bermuda shorts that are above mid-calf
- Leggings that are Spandex
- Sweatpants, sweatshirts, non-collared T-shirts or T-shirts with lettering, or cropped tops that expose the midriff (business casual styled turtlenecks and mock turtlenecks may be worn, and sweaters/fleeces may be worn if necessary due to cool building temperature)
- Athletic shoes or flip-flops. Open toed shoes are not permitted in patient care areas
- Buttons, large jewelry or accessories that could interfere with patient care or safety
- Jewelry in pierced noses, lips, tongues or other exposed body areas, other than ears.
- Visible tattoos

Part III. Exceptions

1. Non-business hours and weekend attire

- Students should dress neatly at all times while in the Walker Building and on the Mobile campus.

- Care should be taken not to wear clothing that might be deemed inappropriate for a professional.

2. Skills lab/activities

- Scrubs may be worn for class activities designed for skills lab or activities occurring during the designated skills time for each class
 - Scrubs must be a solid color and have no branding other than AU/HSOP
 - The official color of HSOP Scrubs is Navy Blue; scrubs purchased by students in the future must be blue.
 - The only embroidery allowed on scrubs are student's names and appropriate AU/HSOP insignia as approved by Associate Dean for Academic Programs
 - Scrubs meeting HSOP Standards will be available through student organizations
- Scrubs may only be worn to class on the day the student is scheduled for skills lab
- Athletic/Tennis shoes may be worn with scrubs. Shoes must be clean, not worn and of reasonable design and color

Activities in specific laboratories and patient areas in which the instructor(s) or institutional policy supersedes this policy.

3. Any medical conditions that inhibit adherence should be discussed with the Associate Dean for Academic Programs.

4. It is appropriate to wear casual attire on days that are approved for dress down. Casual attire should still display a professional appearance.

- Appropriate attire for dress down days include:
 - T-shirt/sweatshirt with no offensive graphics/language
 - Athletic jersey
 - Pants/bottoms should follow standards of attire

Part IV. Appropriate Standards of Professional Attire in the Context of Patient Care or Public Interactions

Defined to include but not limited to the following situations:

- Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE)
- Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE)
- Auburn University Pharmacy Care Clinic (AUPCC)
- Other patient care and HSOP outreach activities (e.g., IPE, health fairs, PAWS, Boykin Clinic)
- Professional meeting functions as applicable
- Any context where the student is representing the School and business attire is expected

1. Attire

- Women: Clean, professionally styled clothing and shoes (i.e. dresses or skirts of appropriate length, non-denim slacks, and appropriate tops). A clean, white, long sleeved waist-length pharmacy jacket is required in patient care and other appropriate contextual settings.
- Men: Clean, professionally styled clothing and shoes including a collared dress shirt with an

appropriately knotted/secured necktie. A clean, white, long sleeved waist-length pharmacy jacket is required in patient care and other appropriate contextual settings.

2. White Coats

- White coats should be clean, pressed and neat, and must have the HSOP patch applied to the left pocket over the heart. The student's name may be embroidered above the HSOP patch.
- Students are not permitted to wear other patches, stickers, badges or other objects on their white coats unless required by their practice site. Students are allowed to wear up to 2 professional appearing lapel pins on their lab coats. Examples include pins for pharmacy related organizations, Auburn University pins, or for other health-related organizations (e.g., American Heart Association).

3. Badges

- An official identification badge must be worn on the student's person and visible at all times, as described in Part 2.2. (All students are expected to conform to this standard at all times.)

Part V. Enforcement of Standards:

- Standards of Professional Attire are intended to be self-regulated.
- Students inappropriately dressed and/or groomed may be removed (from classes/patient care settings/practice experiences) and requested to comply with the standards set forth in this document.
- Questionable or disputed cases of attire and/or grooming shall be documented using the School's Professionalism Assessment form.
- Repeated actions shall be presented to the School's Board of Ethical and Professional Conduct (Honor Board) and may result in disciplinary action.
- Other policies may be implemented as warranted to ensure adherence to these standards.