Professional Dress Guidelines (UAS policy)

Students must dress professionally. Students must present a professional appearance during any clinical experience including visits to prepare for clinical experience in an agency, participation in observational experiences, or interviews and assessments in the community. Professional appearance includes considering jewelry, hair, cosmetics, nails, hygiene, and clothing. Students must display proper facility appropriate identification; including College of Nursing picture identification name badges, uniform and/or lab coat with College of Nursing monogram on the upper left chest and have the required equipment needed for clinical experiences. The ETSU identification name badge and monogrammed uniform/lab coat must only be worn during the clinical experiences, classes, and activities sponsored by the College of Nursing. (Exception: RN-BSN students are required to be in Professional Business Dress with lab coat or uniform.)

A. General Guidelines

1. Only the ETSU College of Nursing or agency specific student name badge should be worn in all skills lab and clinical sessions. Multiple student or employee name badges cannot be worn during ETSU clinical or community rotations. Name badges must be worn at chest level where they can be seen at all times.

2. White lab coats and scrub tops must have the CON logo monogrammed on the left chest.

3. Good personal hygiene and grooming are essential. Proper precautions must be taken to avoid odors related to foods, perfume, smoking, and/or lack of deodorant.

4. All clothing must be laundered, neat, and in good repair. Clothing must have appropriate fit and be opaque enough not to reveal undergarments.

5. No bare feet, open toed shoes, sandals, or flip flops are permitted. Heel height must be less than 2 inches. Closed toe clogs with socks are acceptable. Non-skid soles are recommended.

6. Hair and beards are expected to be clean, neat, and well groomed. Hair is to be secured away from the face and off the shoulders. Extreme hairstyles or coloration is not appropriate.

7. Natural nails (no polish) must be well-manicured and kept short. Acrylic nails are not permitted. They harbor bacteria and increase the risk for infection transmission. Nail polish is discouraged but if worn it should be clear or light in color. Nail polish should not be chipped or cracked.

8. Tattoos must be covered.

9. Jewelry must be simple and unobtrusive. In the clinical setting, jewelry is limited to TWO pair of small earrings, simple flat rings, wedding or engagement rings, and fine neck chains.

10. Body piercings other than earrings are not to be visible.

11. Chewing gum is not permitted in clinical settings or when representing the College of Nursing at outside events.
B. Skills Lab Dress is worn for practice sessions held in the College of Nursing Skills Lab. 1. All clothing must be laundered, neat, and in good repair. Clothing must have appropriate fit and be opaque enough not to reveal undergarments. Sagging and/or tight-fitting clothing is not acceptable. 2. Tops are not to be low cut, backless or revealing. Tank tops are not appropriate. All tops should be of sufficient length not to expose skin on the lower abdomen/upper waist/lower back. Basic t-shirts or polo shirts work best. 3. Modest shorts (mid-thigh length), capris, pants, or jeans can be worn. Short shorts and/or skin tight shorts are not acceptable. 4. Wear comfortable shoes. Closed toed shoes with hard soles are required in the skills lab.

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