



University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

Dress Code Policy for Students in Clinical Settings:

As a student of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, you are expected to adhere to appropriate attire for your work in various clinical settings. Students are encouraged to consider the patient perspective in their appearance and how they present themselves may impact the patient provider relationship. Please be advised that you should review the specific dress code policy for the clinical site and/or course as it pertains to you. Some sites have more specific or structured rules and you are responsible for being aware of those regulations. These are updated frequently, so please check the link below for the most recent information. If you are rotating at a site not included here, please ask your block director or site director for more specific information.

Faculty involved in a Block, Course or Clerkship may request that students wear appropriate professional attire for a lecture or small group session, typically for sessions that involve patients or standardized patients. Students will usually receive notice of such occasions through Canvas.

Inappropriate attire may result in the completion of a Professionalism Feedback Form and/or being asked to leave the setting to return with appropriate attire.

Guideline Areas:

Identification:

ID Badges must be worn and remain visible at all times. Most sites require the badge to be worn above the waist line and require that it is not blocked from view and can be seen in its entirety.

White Coats:

Most sites require a clean white coat to be worn over scrubs whenever possible. Most hospitals specify that staff outside of primary work areas wear white coats and students caring for patients in non-routine or emergent situations to wear white coats or other protective attire. In outpatient settings, guidelines are more variable, and students should seek guidance from their clinical supervisors.

Shoes/Footwear:

Footwear should be appropriate to the work setting, clean and in good quality. Patient care teams do not allow for open-toed shoes.

Jewelry and Messages:

Jewelry and other accessories must be professional, appropriate and not interfere with job performance or safety. Students may be prohibited from wearing clothing, pins, buttons, emblems or insignia bearing a political, controversial, inflammatory or provocative messages.

Tattoos/Body Art:

At most sites, students are expected to cover tattoos with appropriate clothing in order to create a non-threatening, professional environment for patients and visitors. Typical coverings would include collared shirts or long-sleeve shirts, etc.

Clothing:

Clothing should be clean, fit properly in a length and style that does not interfere with the performance of work duties. Shirts or tops should have a modest neckline so that cleavage is not visible. Skirts and dresses need to be at an appropriate length. Clinician appearance should be neat and clean to reflect a professional image which includes clean clothes and clean shoes. Overall appearance should be professional.

Personal Hygiene (Hair):

Hair should be clean, groomed and kept at a reasonable length. Long hair must be maintained appropriately and tied back when necessary or required. Most sites require that hair color or style cannot be extreme.

Personal Hygiene (Nails):

Fingernails should be clean and of appropriate length for safety purposes and to prevent infection. Almost all of the clinical sites prohibit artificial nails.

Personal Hygiene (Odor/Teeth):

Body odor and bad breath can be offensive to patients and team members. Fragrances are discouraged and odors should be minimized as much as possible to avoid sensitivity reactions in those around you.

Scrubs:

Specific sites may require a specific color/kind of scrubs or a particular uniform dependent upon the setting. Specific blocks or departments at specific sites may allow scrubs while others do not permit scrubs at all. Please be aware that some sites have specific rules about outside contamination and may require you to change scrubs if you leave and return to the hospital.

Specific Cite Related Dress Code Policies:

CHCO: Starting on Page 7:

<https://www.childrenscolorado.org/globalassets/research/orientation-training-handbook-non-employees-medical-staff.pdf>

Colorado Springs Branch (under frequently asked questions):

<https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/education/colorado-springs-branch>

Denver Health: [Denver Health Personal Appearance Dress Code](#)

Exempla Saint Joseph's Hospital: <https://www.sclhealth.org/-/media/files/shared/for-medical-professionals/student-placement/studentguidelinessclhealthdenvercaresites150220.pdf?la=en>

UCH: [Dress Code and Professional Appearance](#)

VA: <https://www.denver.va.gov/clinicaltrainee/Docs/00-006-Employee-Attire-Guidelines.pdf>