



The Medical College of Georgia Office of Academic Affairs

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Applicable to: All students
Approved by: COC
Category: Professionalism
Context:

Clinical Dress Code Policy

In order to create an environment of professionalism for our patients and colleagues, students are required to dress professionally in appropriate attire and maintain a neat and clean appearance when in the clinical setting. For the purposes of this policy clinical setting includes but is not limited to hospital and outpatient clinical encounters and rotations, standardized patient activities, and all other patient interactions.

Appropriate attire includes:

- Dress shirts, professional blouses, and sweaters
- Clean, pressed scrubs
- Professional-length skirts, or dresses
- Slacks, capri pants
- Loafers, or tennis shoes that are clean and without holes (no open toed shoes for safety reasons)
- Cologne, perfume, or after shave are *not* appropriate in the clinical environment as patients may be allergic.

As members of the medical community, all students engaged in clinical activities shall wear a clean, short white coat once they have received it, unless instructed otherwise by the attending physician. They are also required to have their student identification visible.

If the standards of professional dress are more restrictive at an assigned clinical site, students are expected to adhere to those standards. Individual clinical preceptors may also have more restrictive dress requirements based on their practice settings.

Appearances that have the potential to offend or distract patients are to be avoided.

Attire that is NOT appropriate includes:

- Casual clothing (e.g., jeans and shirts without collars for men.)
- Revealing or ill-fitting clothing
- Unwashed or unkempt appearance

Situations involving dress code violations will be evaluated on a case by case basis by the Clerkship/Course Director and may include moving the student to a different site if it is warranted.