



The Medical College of Georgia Office of Academic Affairs

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Approved by: COC
Category: Professionalism, Preclerkship, Clerkship

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 (hemline at or just above the knee)
- Slacks, capri pants
- Loafers, or tennis shoes that are clean and without holes (no open toed shoes for safety reasons)

Attire that is NOT appropriate includes but is not limited to:

- Casual clothing (e.g., jeans and shirts without collars for men.)
- Shorts
- Revealing clothing for men or women
- Unwashed or unkempt appearance
- Cologne, perfume, or after shave are *not* appropriate in the clinical environment as patients may be sensitive
- Clothing with potentially disrespectful messaging. Examples include but are not limited to references to sexual or racist imagery or drug and alcohol use.

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.

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.