Policy: Professional Attire for MSN (Entry into Nursing) and Advanced Nursing Practice Students

Summary

Agreements and contracts with clinical agencies dictate that student nurses follow a specific dress code. With this in mind, all students are required to wear uniforms at all clinical settings, including the School of Nursing labs and any international setting. The uniform requirements may be modified at specific sites so that students are in compliance with clinical site policy. Please be mindful of the fact that as a student you are representing Johns Hopkins School of Nursing at all of your clinical sites.

Policy

MSN (Entry into Nursing)
The standard uniform consists of the following as determined by a specific course:

Navy blue uniform pants
Navy blue uniform skirt
Navy blue scrub top
White scrub top
Black, navy or white shoes (non-permeable)
Long white lab coat that includes School of Nursing emblem on left sleeve and school name embroidered on left breast worn over professional attire.

Students will be notified about required clinical attire for their specific clinical site by their clinical instructor before the clinical course begins.

Important to Note:

- Short white lab coats are not permitted.
- Sneakers, canvas shoes or Crocs are not permitted.
- No casual attire is permitted in any work setting at any time (i.e. jeans, shorts, sweatshirts, t-shirts, sandals, etc.).
- All scrub tops and lab coats must have the JHUSON patch sewn on the left upper sleeve.
- Many community health sites require that students wear dark shoes.
- Students must have uniforms available the first week of their initial term.
- The long white lab coat may be worn over professional attire in some situations, to be determined by faculty.
- When a lab coat is worn, the name pin must be attached.
- The School uniform, patch, name pin, and identification badge will be worn by an individual when functioning in the student role. A student may not wear a School uniform in an employment situation.
- Students must wear the official lab coat and professional attire when visiting a clinical setting to review patient assignments, etc.
Students with special uniform needs pertaining to cultural or religious requirements should see the Program Director before purchasing uniforms. Accommodations may be made for the student’s cultural or religious obligations.

If scrubs are not required, the long white coat may be worn over professional attire in most situations. The SON uniform, name pin, and identification badge must be worn by an individual when functioning in the student role.

**Hair and Nails**

Hair must be worn above the collar or tied back securely with a small clip or band. Large hair bows or scarves are not permitted. Extreme hair colors are not permitted. For cultural or religious purposes, a solid navy blue, black, or white head-covering may be worn with the uniform scrubs. Men may have beards and mustaches if trimmed neatly. Facial stubble is not permitted.

Fingernails should be clean, trimmed to no longer than 1/4 inch beyond fingertips, and with either pale or no polish. Fingernails are to be free of ornaments. Fingernail polish is to be free of chips. Artificial fingernails or other nail enhancements are not permitted because of documented outbreaks of infection due to gram negative bacteria associated with artificial nails.

Makeup, if worn, must be applied in moderation to enhance the natural features and create a professional image. Glitter, sequins, and false eye lashes (including lash extensions) are prohibited.

**Jewelry**

Only one small post earring in each ear is allowed in clinical areas. Dangling or hoop earrings and bracelets are prohibited. Jewelry must be removed from any other visibly pierced location, including the tongue. Either a watch with a second hand or a digital watch that can track seconds is required.

**Fragrances**

For patient and staff health and comfort, the use of all scented products, such as perfume, cologne, after-shave, hairspray, or lotions, are prohibited as they may have adverse effects on patients, visitors, and other employees.

**Tattoos**

All tattoos must be covered.

**Improper Uniform**

Faculty members will tell an improperly dressed student to leave the clinical setting and return in proper uniform. The lost clinical time cannot be rescheduled, and a clinical warning may be issued.
**Name Pin, ID Badge, and Uniform Emblem**

Name pins are ordered through the uniform company (Matthews Johns Hopkins Medical Book Center at 410-955-3931 or 1-800-266-5725) and will be worn on the upper right portion of the uniform. Charges will be incurred for replacement of lost name pins. The JHUSON picture ID badge is obtained during the orientation process. The picture ID badge should be worn at all times in class or clinic; the name pin should be worn when in a clinical setting.

**Uniforms are available from:**
- The Matthews Johns Hopkins Medical Book Center
  - 1830 E. Monument Street
  - Baltimore, Maryland  21205
  - Telephone: 1-410-955-3931 or 1-800-266-5725 (Toll free)
  - Fax: 1-410-955-0576
  - Email: jhu@matthewsstores.com
  - Website: [http://www.jhumedbooks.com](http://www.jhumedbooks.com)

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