

**University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix**  
**Dress Code Frequently Asked Questions**

**What are examples of professional attire that can be worn at all clinical sites?**

- Slacks (no cargo pants, jeans, or leggings).
- Blouses/Dress shirts with ties, in most circumstances.
- Skirts or dresses with a hemline and slits no higher than the knee.
- No plunging necklines, bare shoulders, midriff exposure, miniskirts, shorts, tank tops\*, leggings, or low-rise slacks that show body parts or undergarments during normal work activities. No extreme patterned colored hosiery or fishnet-type stockings. *\*Tank tops or sleeveless dresses/blouses are allowed if a coat or jacket is worn over them as the outer garment*
- Clothing that fits appropriately and is in good condition. Excessively baggy, tight/body conforming, faded or frayed attire is not acceptable.
- No intentional body modification with the intent of achieving a visible, physical effect that detracts from a professional image.
- All readily coverable tattoos are concealed so as not to be visible.
- No earrings which dangle more than one inch from the ear lobe. No more than four earrings per ear.
- No barbell or chains that stretch between holes and no gauges larger than 6 (4.1 mm).
- No visible body piercings other than ears. Clear retainers are appropriate to maintain any other piercings.
- No jewelry that interferes with patient care.
- Dress shoes (closed-toe and non-porous). Sandals are not to be worn. Athletic shoes are appropriate only when on call, in the operating room, or in a procedure suite. Heels higher than 3 inches are not acceptable.

**What kinds of casual attire are appropriate in the lecture classroom setting?**

- Clean and tidy denim pants (jeans) and skirts.
- Capri pants or shorts (excluding short shorts).
- Athletic shoes or flats that are clean and in good repair.
- Athletic attire is not appropriate in the classroom, nor are scrubs, plunging necklines, bare shoulders, midriff exposure, miniskirts, tank tops, leggings, or low-rise slacks that show body parts or undergarments during normal work activities. No extreme patterned colored hosiery or fishnet-type stockings.

**What about personal hygiene and cleanliness?**

- Hair must be clean, combed and neatly trimmed or arranged to conform to the safety requirements of the specific work area.
- Sideburns, moustaches and beards must be neatly kept; a beard hood may be required in certain areas.
- In keeping with professionally appropriate attire, extreme hair colors including but not limited to yellow, green, pink, purple, or blue are not permitted.
- Long or artificial fingernails are prohibited.

- Body and hair cleanliness is mandatory. Odors which may interfere with the health of the patient are not permitted. This includes heavily scented colognes, perfumes, body lotions, deodorants, and cigarette or other odors.

**What kind of professional behaviors compliment professional attire?**

- Being respectful and polite to others.
- Addressing patients by their surname, unless otherwise directed.
- Avoiding chewing gum during encounters with patients.
- Courteous use of personal electronic devices. No “selfies” or photos are allowed in clinical settings. If you use (or anticipate that you will use) a smart device in a clinical setting, communicate to a team member what you are doing so it is not assumed that you aren’t paying attention. Do not post about patient encounter experiences on social media and no pictures of patients should be taken with a personal electronic device.
- Demonstrating a teachable attitude.

**What is the dress code of the specific site I will be at?**

The dress code will be provided by the site prior to you beginning your rotation.

**Who should I contact to obtain clarifying information on dress codes or the dress code policy?**

For all general inquiries about dress codes contact the Associate Dean, Student Affairs:

Dr. Susan Kaib, [skaib@email.arizona.edu](mailto:skaib@email.arizona.edu)

Capstones: Dr. Jennifer Hartmark-Hill, [jhartmarkhill@email.arizona.edu](mailto:jhartmarkhill@email.arizona.edu)

Clinical Anatomy: Dr. Rebecca Fisher, [rfisher@email.arizona.edu](mailto:rfisher@email.arizona.edu)

Community Clinical Experience: Dr. Kelly Luba, [kluba@email.arizona.edu](mailto:kluba@email.arizona.edu)

Doctoring: Dr. Maricela Moffitt, [moffittm@email.arizona.edu](mailto:moffittm@email.arizona.edu)

Intersessions: Dr. Jayne Peterson, [jmpeterson@email.arizona.edu](mailto:jmpeterson@email.arizona.edu)

Introduction to Medicine: Dr. Elaine Niggemann, [elainen@email.arizona.edu](mailto:elainen@email.arizona.edu)

Transition to Clerkships: Dr. Brenda Shinar, [brendashinar@email.arizona.edu](mailto:brendashinar@email.arizona.edu)

Clerkships: Individual Clerkship Director