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|  <p>DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY</p> <p>Uniform Policy</p> | <p><i>Policy Sponsor:</i> School Council</p> <p><i>Responsible Unit:</i> School of Nursing</p> | <p><i>Approval Date:</i> Approved by SON School Council _ February 25, 2019</p> <p><i>Amendments: February 25, 2019</i></p> |
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A. Background & Purpose

Students are required to dress in a professional and well-groomed manner and wear required uniforms in designated settings. Students who do not adhere to this policy may be asked to leave the classroom or clinical area as determined by the Clinical Instructor and Course Professor. This will be noted on the student clinical evaluation.

The purpose of this policy is to outline professional presentation expectations when interacting with the public and other healthcare professionals.

B. Application

This Policy applies to all students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) program.

C. Definitions

1. In this Policy:

- a. "Directive" means a written, recommended practice that provides guidance to academic and/or administrative units on how particular matters within their area of operational or academic responsibility should be handled. Directives need not be connected to a University Policy.
- b. "Clinical Setting" means any setting which nursing students are engaged in the promotion of health across the continuum of care and for all age groups.
- c. "Uniform" (scrubs) means black tops and bottoms. Shoes must be neutral coloured and clean, with quiet non-skid soles and have a fully closed toe and heel. **Students that had purchased white uniform tops and bottoms prior to 2019 enrolment will be permitted to wear these and this practice will be phased out.*

D. Policy

Students are expected to dress in a professional, well-groomed manner. The following directives apply regardless of setting:

- 1. Dalhousie University nursing student uniform (scrubs) are required in laboratory or clinical

settings unless otherwise specified. For institutional clinical experiences, clean, wrinkle free, well-fitting Dalhousie University student uniforms are mandatory. This includes black tops and bottoms. Colored trim or designs are not permitted. No low-cut uniforms; undershirts must be black. Students are asked to refrain from wearing their nursing uniform outside of the lab and clinical setting.

2. Students must adhere to any dress policies specific to the agency where they are practicing. The most restrictive policy will apply.
3. For some clinical practica (community, mental health and family clinical experiences) professional street attire may be worn. Students are expected to adhere to the Agency dress code and follow “smart business casual”.
4. The school crest must be placed on the upper left sleeve of both the uniform and lab coat.
5. Students must wear Dalhousie identification, showing full name (first, last), and photo tags above the waist (preferably on left side of chest) where it is easily visible.
6. Professional, supportive footwear is required. Shoes must be neutral coloured and clean, with quiet non-skid soles and have a fully closed toe and heel.
7. Finger nails must be clean, polish free and trimmed. Artificial nails and polish are prohibited in clinical areas.
8. Personal products must be scent-free.
9. Hair must be clean and neatly combed. Long hair must be tied back.
10. Jewelry acceptable in clinical areas include watches, wedding bands and rings with no protruding edges, and stud earrings. Dangling earrings and necklaces, bracelets, and/or any other jewelry that may impede care are not to be worn.
11. All body piercing objects must be kept tight to the body to ensure that such objects do not present any source of entanglements. Ensure that all piercings are clean.
12. Watches with a second hand are mandatory in the clinical setting.
13. Tattoos that depict violence, pornography, gang or racial messages must be covered.

E. **Authority:**

This policy falls under the authority of School of Nursing School Council

Policy Repository:

All SON policies are available on the School of Nursing website and shared drive.

Policy Oversight Committee:

Undergraduate Studies Committee

School of Nursing School Council

Review: The Responsible Unit will in relation to University Policies within their area of operational or academic responsibility:

- a. Review those School policies every 5 years, or earlier as required, and recommend amendments to or revocation of such policies;
- b. Ensure those School policies are communicated appropriately;
- c. Monitor compliance and assess outcomes.

F. **Procedures**

This policy is an amendment of an existing policy:

[Dress Uniform Policy Approved May 25, 2015](#)

G. **Related Resources and References**

FH Professional Unsuitability Policy

Inter University Scent Free Guidelines

Uniform Policy_ Approved at SON School Council_ February 25, 2019