

Policy Name: Student Dress Code for Nursing
Approving Authority: Nursing Program Committee

Policy # AA-037
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Statement

The Student Dress Code for Nursing Policy of Beal University Canada's ("BUC" or the "University") provides the standards of dress while in the laboratory and clinical practice setting for the Nursing students enrolled at the University. The Nursing Program Committee will review this policy annually.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure a transparent, fair, and consistent approach to the laboratory and clinical dress code that promotes safety and a professional image of the University students as well as Laboratory faculty and Clinical faculty.

Roles and Responsibilities

This policy applies to the students enrolled in the BScN degree program at the University. The nursing faculty have responsibility for implementation of this policy. The Dean has oversight responsibility of this policy.

Policy

Dress Policy for Clinical Practice

- It is expected that students will be conservatively and appropriately dressed for all clinical activities in any health care settings.
- Students and Faculty must always present a clean and professional appearance.
- All students will be required to buy a set of burgundy scrubs for their clinical placement. Students will be required to wear a Beal University Canada patch that will need to be sewn on their sleeve.
- Some agencies may have unit-specific dress practices and policies. Students and Faculty are expected to follow the unit-specific practice/policy if it differs from BUC's policy.
- Exceptions, dress and head coverings worn for religious reasoning.

Uniforms

- BUC uniforms are always required in the clinical setting, including labs and simulation.
- BUC requires a standard uniform; therefore, alteration of style or permanent imprint/embroidery of name is not permitted.
- BUC students may wear a long sleeve garment that is white, grey, or black with no pattern under the student uniform. Sleeves must be pushed up to elbows for handwashing and when providing direct hands-on patient care.
- BUC students may not be permitted to wear additional clothing over the uniform (e.g., cardigans, jumpers).
- BUC students are strongly encouraged to change into another set of clothes to avoid wearing the uniform in public places. Alternatively, uniforms should be covered before leaving the clinical setting.

Shoes

White shoes with regular, closed heels and toes are acceptable. White athletic shoes with pale colored trim are acceptable.

Stockings/Socks

Lightweight white socks shall be worn under the uniform.

Jewelry

- A small wristwatch with second hand or digital watch marking seconds is required.
- In any clinical setting, students are only permitted to wear a watch, wedding band, or ring without stones or sharp edges and plain stud or small hoop earrings (a maximum of two per ear).
- Tongue piercing will not be accepted in any clinical setting. No other visible piercing with jewelry will be permitted (i.e., eyebrow, nares, chin, or lip).
- No other jewelry is permitted, except medical alert jewelry and for religious reasons.

Personal Hygiene

- Nails must be short and clean.
- No artificial fingernails and no nail polish may be worn in the clinical setting.
- Hair must be worn in a controlled fashion so as not to interfere with patient care.
- Beards and moustaches must be contained within a mask.
- Unscented deodorant shall be worn.
- Students are not permitted to chew gum while providing care.

Equipment

Students must not wear stethoscope around the neck while in clinical. It should be concealed in one of the uniform pockets and used in accordance with infection control policy.

Fragrances

Students must avoid wearing intense odors or scents such as perfumes, scented fragrances, body odors, cigarettes.

Identification Badge

It is mandatory for faculty and students to always wear their University ID during clinical placements. ID cards should be attached to uniforms; if a lanyard is used, it should be equipped with a breakaway clip for safety. Uniforms are required for all clinical placements unless otherwise informed by Clinical Instructor.

Faculty

It is expected that Laboratory faculty and Clinical faculty, serving as the role models for students, will be professional in their dress and adhere to the same standards of lab and clinical attire as students but are not required to wear the BUC uniform, however, they are expected to wear a lab coat. It is noted that in certain clinical settings, uniforms are not required but professional dress is always expected.

- Students will be asked to leave the laboratory, simulation, or clinical site immediately if they do not comply with the Student Dress Code Nursing policy. Students will be considered “absent” for that event.
- Students who continue to not comply with the Student Dress Code Nursing policy will be referred to the BUC Clinical Placement and Lab Coordinator.
- Failure to adhere to the Student Dress Code Nursing policy may result in the student being unsuccessful in the clinical course.