

VERMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE NURSING PROGRAM

APPEARANCE/PROFESSIONAL DEMEANOR/UNIFORM POLICY

In an effort to inspire patient comfort and confidence in the caregiver, students are expected to appear in complete uniform and exhibit professional demeanor at all times while in their respective clinical areas.

- A school uniform is *required*.
- Uniforms are to be clean and pressed and must also be in synch with the clinical agency “dress code”.
- Students may purchase a plain white knit cotton long sleeve shirt to wear under their uniform top for warmth at the same uniform store where they purchase their uniforms. *This is dependent upon clinical agency policy*
- A student name pin/badge/photo ID required in the clinical setting *per facility policy* must be worn any time the student is in the clinical area.
- Hair must be confined off the collar and away from the face at all times. There shall be no ornamentation in the hair. If something is needed to keep the hair confined, it should be non-ostentatious. Gentlemen are allowed to have a moustache and a beard. The moustache must be neatly trimmed. The beard must also be neatly sculpted to the face. At the discretion of the instructor, the student may be asked to wear a beard bag if there is a concern for infection control. Otherwise, gentlemen must be clean shaven.
- *Clean, white or black* shoes: all one color and impermeable to liquids, i.e. leather NOT canvas. White socks are to be worn with white shoes, and black socks are to be worn with black shoes.
- Bandage scissors, a small notebook, a pen with black ink and a watch calibrated to count seconds are *required*.
- Hand jewelry is limited to a single ring without stones and with a smooth surface. Very small, *single*, stud-type earrings may be worn in some clinical areas. If the instructor feels the ring or studs are inappropriate, you will be asked to remove them. *No other jewelry is permissible.*
- Nails *must* be kept short. Colored nail polish and acrylic nails may not be worn.
- *No* gum chewing is permitted in clinical areas.
- When in the clinical facility, but not in uniform, students will wear their name pin and a lab coat over their street (*business casual*) clothes. *Some Sites may not require a lab coat; but, only a name pin.*
- The odor of cigarettes is not allowed or tolerated.
- Students will refrain from wearing perfume or fragrant lotions or hair products to the clinical area.
- Tattoos deemed offensive by the *clinical facility/clinical instructor and/or Site Director* will be covered.

Interpretation of this policy will be at the discretion of the clinical instructor. Students will be expected to adhere to this decision. Students who fail to meet these guidelines will be sent off duty. This absence will be counted as a clinical absence.