Background and Purpose
To advise students on professional demeanor in regards to dress.

Policy statement

_HPU AT Program Guidelines for Professional Dress_

Student professional dress and conduct should, at all times, reflect the dignity and standards of the medical profession. It is important that athletic training students dress in a manner that is respectful to their professors, classmates, patients, and staff. The High Point University Department of Athletic Training and the School of Health Sciences has the authority to set dress code requirements for students admitted to the program.

The dress code at various clinical sites may be more rigorous than the guidelines outlined below. High Point University School of Health Sciences has expectations of professional dress at any time the student is in the clinical setting, regardless of patient care duties.

Classroom Settings (Athletic Training courses)

- Athletic training students are not required to wear clothing issued for clinical experiences to classes, but are required to maintain and present themselves in a manner that promotes a professional appearance.
- Students are highly encouraged to follow a “business” casual dress code (khaki or other dress slacks, dress shoes, dress blouse or shirt, etc.).
- Athletic shorts and t-shirts should be worn for clinical and laboratory classes.
- Jewelry and other adornments such as body piercing should be in good taste.
- No clothing should be unprofessionally revealing regardless of student gender. Please consult a Faculty Member if you are unsure about this.

_Whether in class or on your personal time, your personal appearance will reflect on High Point University and your chosen profession as an athletic trainer._
Clinical Setting

Identification in the Clinical Setting

Proper identification must be clearly displayed identifying that the student is an HPU Athletic Training student. HPU AT student ID badges must be worn at all times. The Professional ID badge must be worn so that it is easily readable by patients and clinic personnel. ID badges must not be obscured or altered in any manner.

Shoes

Footwear must be clean, in good condition, and appropriate. For safety reasons, open-toed shoes and sandals are not allowed in patient care areas. Running shoes are recommended and on special occasions dress shoes may be appropriate.

Style

All clothing should be clean, free of major wrinkles or defects, and worn properly (flys shut, pants up on waists, shirts tucked in at all times, shirts buttoned up, shoes tied). No sweatshirts or shirts with messages, lettering or logos (except HPU/Panther). No shorts, cut-offs, etc. Jeans are not to be worn even if it is clinic policy to allow providers to wear jeans! Appropriate attire includes chinos or shorts (khaki, navy, black, grey, brown, tan—no red, orange, pink, green, etc.). Shorts must be of an appropriate length (to your fingertips) and should not fall below the waistline when bending over. Rain gear or wind suits are acceptable during inclement weather.

Fragrance

No wearing of colognes, perfumes or scented lotions in clinical settings as patients may be sensitive to fragrances.

Hands

Fingernails must be clean and short to allow for proper hand hygiene, use of manual therapy, use of instruments, prevention of glove puncture and injury to the patient. Artificial nails and decorative nail polishes are prohibited.

Hygiene

Daily hygiene must include personal cleanliness, including use of deodorant. Clothing should be clean, pressed, and in good condition.
Hair

Mustaches, hair longer than chin length, and beards must be clean and well-trimmed. Students with long hair who participate in patient care should wear hair tied back to avoid interfering with performance of procedures or having hair come into contact with patients.

Jewelry

A watch with a second hand is strongly recommended to ensure efficient assessment of patient vitals. Jewelry should not be functionally restrictive or excessive. Students should avoid wearing long or dangling earrings for their own and for patient safety. There should be no visible jewelry in body piercings with the exception of earrings. In the case of religious requirement, certain piercings may be acceptable. No other facial jewelry (e.g., tongue, eyebrow piercings etc.) is allowed.

Tattoos

Tattoos shall be appropriately covered when possible.

Violations

Students in violation of any of the above dress codes may be asked to change into appropriate attire. Repeated violations will result in referral of the student to the Student Progress Committee for disciplinary action.