



# 2026 UNIFORM POLICY

GE-BSN and BSN



# Unified Uniform, Grooming, and Professional Appearance Policy

To promote professionalism, patient safety, and public trust, all students are required to adhere to the following uniform and appearance standards while on campus, in clinical settings, and during all university-sponsored activities.

## Scope of Policy – Unified Uniform, Grooming, and Appearance Policy

**These standards apply to all students enrolled at the university**, regardless of gender, and are required to ensure consistency, professionalism, and compliance with institutional and clinical partner expectations.

## General Education & School of Nursing Education Studies

Professional appearance is a core component of patient safety, public trust, and professional accountability. Early adherence supports the development of discipline, responsibility, and readiness for healthcare environments. **These standards are intentionally introduced at the start of General Education coursework to prepare students for progression into the School of Nursing, clinical practice, and the professional expectations of nursing.**

## General Requirements

Please be advised that the **AUHS logo is the intellectual property of the university owners and is protected by copyright**. The logo may **not be used to purchase, produce, or distribute unauthorized scrubs or apparel** featuring the AUHS name or logo. Any use of the logo without prior authorization from the university is strictly prohibited.

Students who are on campus for **any school-related purpose**, including administrative visits (e.g., Registrar, Financial Aid), must be in **approved uniform attire**.

Approved uniforms are required whenever students are:

- On campus.
- On hospital or agency premises for school-related activities (patient care, preparation, simulation)
- Participating in off-campus AUHS activities

***Students who violate the Uniform Policy (theory and clinical) will receive an Adverse Action Form for the first violation. A second violation will result in dismissal from theory class and/or clinical for the day, and the student will be marked absent. A third violation will result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination from the program.***

## General Appearance Standards

These standards apply to all students enrolled at the university, regardless of gender.

1. Adhere to campus didactic uniform policy.
2. Adhere to clinical uniform policy.
3. All visible tattoos must be fully covered at all times

- Clinical: Tattoos must be covered with a white long-sleeved undershirt, bandage, or adhesive bandage. Cosmetic products (e.g., concealer or makeup) may not be used to cover tattoos.
  - Campus (Didactic): must be covered with a white or navy-blue long-sleeved undershirt, bandage, or adhesive bandage. Cosmetic products (e.g., concealer or makeup) may not be used to cover tattoos.
4. The AUHS Student ID must be worn **at all times** in both clinical and didactic settings.
  5. Uniforms must be clean, pressed, properly fitted, and professional in appearance.
  6. **Jewelry** is limited to:
    - One plain wedding band
    - One watch with a second hand
    - One pair of small, single-post earrings (Female students only)
    - Dangling earrings are not permitted.
    - No visible earrings (Male students only)
    - Necklaces are not permitted in both didactic and clinical setting.
    - Bracelets are not permitted in both didactic and clinical setting.
  7. Undergarments must be modest and not visible.
  8. Undershirts must be solid navy blue, black, grey, or white and contain no logos of any kind or size.
  9. Baggy, excessively loose, or revealing clothing is unsafe and unacceptable.
  10. Socks must be all white, at least crew length.
  11. Long hair must be styled in a neat mid to high bun both on campus and at clinical sites. Headbands at least two inches wide, without logos and in navy blue, black, or white, can be worn to keep hair away from the face.
  12. Hair adornments are not permitted. Only small, functional hair ties, elastic bands, or bobby pins may be used to secure hair.
  13. Hair color must fall within naturally occurring human hair tones (e.g., black, brown, blonde, *natural* red, gray). Bright, fluorescent, or fashion colors (e.g., neon pink, yellow, blue, purple, green, and red) are not permitted. Hairstyles must be maintained professionally and must not interfere with safety, patient care, or required protective equipment.
  14. No hats or beanies are to be worn in the classroom or clinical setting.
  15. Facial hair, beards and mustaches must be clean, short, and neatly trimmed. Otherwise, male students must be clean-shaven.
  16. Shoes should be cleaned at least weekly to keep them neat and presentable
  17. The following attire is not permitted:
    - Open-toe, open-air, or backless shoes
    - Sandals or slippers
    - Visible body piercings (nose, tongue, lip, eyebrow, etc.)
    - Hats (baseball caps, beanies)
    - Revealing attire (e.g., low-cut blouses)

# NURSING UNIFORM & DRESS CODES

## Scope of Policy – Nursing Uniform and Dress Codes

This policy applies to all students enrolled in the nursing program, regardless of gender, while participating in didactic courses, clinical experiences, simulation activities, and any university-sponsored events. All students are required to adhere to the established uniform, grooming, and professional appearance standards at all times.

### Campus (Didactic) Uniform

- **Nursing Scrubs:** Students are required to wear navy blue scrubs (scrub top and pants) with the AUHS patch/logo. The scrub top may be replaced with approved AUHS merchandise, such as a polo shirt, T-shirt, or crewneck. All navy-blue scrubs must be clean, wrinkle-free and properly pressed or ironed
- **Tattoos:** must be covered with a white or navy-blue long-sleeved undershirt, bandage, or adhesive bandage. Cosmetic products (e.g., concealer or makeup) may not be used to cover tattoos.
- **Jewelry** is limited to:
  - One plain wedding band
  - One watch with a second hand
  - One pair of small, single-post earrings (Female students only)
  - Dangling earrings are not permitted.
  - No visible earrings (Male students only)
  - Necklaces are not permitted in both didactic and clinical setting.
  - Bracelets are not permitted in both didactic and clinical setting.
- **Makeup and Cosmetics:** Makeup must be in good taste and not excessive.
  - Lash extensions or fake eyelashes are not allowed.
  - Fingernails must be clean and short.
  - No nail polish, gel nails, or artificial nails may be worn on campus and in clinical areas.
- **Outerwear:** Students may wear an AUHS hoodie or jacket, but only in gray, black, navy blue, or white. If a non-AUHS hoodie or jacket is worn, it must be plain, in one of the approved colors, and contain no logos of any kind or size.
- **Undershirts:** Must be solid navy blue, black, or white and contain no logos of any kind or size.
  - **Shoes:** Students must wear **ALL WHITE leather shoes or fabric athletic with NO color trim or large, flashy logos**. To maintain professionalism, hygiene, and a clinical standard of cleanliness, these shoes should be designated for school and clinical use only and not worn for other activities outside of academic or clinical settings.
    - **Clogs, Crocs-style shoes, open-toe shoes, open-back shoes, slip-on shoes, house slippers, furry flip-flops, or similar casual footwear are not permitted.**
    - **Shoes should also be cleaned at least weekly** to keep them neat and presentable.
- **Socks:** must be all white, at least crew length.
- **Hygiene:** Good personal hygiene is essential to professional nursing practice. Regular bathing and the use of deodorant are required. **Perfume, cologne, and aftershave are not permitted because odors may be offensive or harmful to patients.**
- **Hair** Long hair must always be secured in a neat mid to high bun both on campus and at all clinical sites. Headbands at least two inches wide, without logos and in navy blue, black, or white, can be worn to keep hair away from the face. In the Mental Health clinical, hair must be always secured in a bun.
  - Hair adornments are not permitted. Only small, functional hair ties, elastic bands, or bobby pins may be used to secure hair.
  - No hats or beanies are to be worn in the classroom or clinical setting.

## Clinical Uniform

- **Nursing Scrubs:** AUHS **White scrubs only** (scrub top and pants), unless otherwise informed. All white scrubs must be clean, wrinkle-free, and properly pressed or ironed.
- **Tattoos:** must be covered with a white long-sleeved undershirt, bandage, or adhesive bandage. Cosmetic products (e.g., concealer or makeup) may not be used to cover tattoos.
- **Jewelry** is limited to:
  - One plain wedding band
  - One watch with a second hand
  - One pair of small, single-post earrings (Female students only)
  - Dangling earrings are not permitted.
  - No visible earrings (Male students only)
  - Necklaces are not permitted in both didactic and clinical setting.
  - Bracelets are not permitted in both didactic and clinical setting.
- **Makeup and Cosmetics:** Makeup must be in good taste and not excessive.
  - Lash extensions or fake eyelashes are not allowed.
  - Fingernails must be clean and short.
  - No nail polish, gel nails, or artificial nails may be worn on campus and in clinical areas.
- **Outerwear:** Approved white lab coats or AUHS white merch jacket with the AUHS patch/logo are the **only permitted cover-up** in clinical settings with no wrinkles.
- **Undershirts:** Must be solid navy blue, black, or white and contain no logos of any kind or size.
- **Shoes:** Students must wear **ALL WHITE leather shoes** with **NO color trim or large, flashy logos**. To maintain professionalism, hygiene, and a clinical standard of cleanliness, these shoes should be designated for school and clinical use only and not worn for other activities outside of academic or clinical settings.
  - **Clogs, Crocs-style shoes, open-toe shoes, open-back shoes, slip-on shoes, house slippers, furry flip-flops, or similar casual footwear are not permitted.**
  - **Shoes should also be cleaned at least weekly** to keep them neat and presentable.
- **Socks:** must be all white, at least crew length.
- **Hygiene:** Good personal hygiene is essential to professional nursing practice. Regular bathing and the use of deodorant are required. **Perfume, cologne, and aftershave are not permitted because odors may be offensive or harmful to patients.**
- **Hair:** Long hair must always be secured in a neat mid to high bun both on campus and at all clinical sites. Headbands at least two inches wide, without logos and in navy blue, black, or white, can be worn to keep hair away from the face. In the Mental Health clinical, hair must be always secured in a bun.
  - Hair adornments are not permitted. Only small, functional hair ties, elastic bands, or bobby pins may be used to secure hair.
  - No hats or beanies are to be worn in the classroom or clinical setting.

# CLINICAL UNIFORM AND CONDUCT

1. Approved white lab coats or AUHS white merch jacket with the AUHS patch/logo are the **only permitted cover-up** in clinical settings with no wrinkles.
2. Gum chewing is not permitted in any clinical agency.
3. In clinical facilities where uniforms are not worn, students must follow the agency's dress code.
4. Students should wear nursing uniform or business-casual attire when meeting clinical agency personnel.
5. Food or drinks **are not allowed** in the classrooms.
6. Use of personal cell phones is strictly prohibited while on the clinical unit/floor at the clinical site. **Cell phones may only be used in the event of an extreme emergency** and with prior approval from the clinical instructor.

## REQUIRED CLINICAL EQUIPMENT

Every student must have the following items to attend clinical unless otherwise specified. Missing items will result in dismissal from clinical and an absence for the day.

- a. AUHS Student Photo ID
- b. Watch with second hand or digital readout (no smartwatches)
- c. Bandage scissors
- d. Black ballpoint pen
- e. Pen light with pupil gauge
- f. AUHS approved white lab coat or white AUHS merch jacket

The AUHS Student ID must be worn **at all times** in all clinical settings. Additional IDs may be required by individual facilities.

## PERSONAL APPEARANCE & HYGIENE

### Scope of Policy- Personal Appearance & Hygiene

This policy applies to all students enrolled in the nursing program, regardless of gender, across all didactic, clinical, simulation, and university-related activities. Adherence to personal hygiene and professional appearance standards is required to ensure patient safety, support infection prevention practices, and uphold professional and institutional expectations.

### Hygiene

1. Good personal hygiene is essential to professional nursing practice. Regular bathing and the use of deodorant are required.
2. Because odors may be offensive or harmful to patients, no perfume, cologne, or aftershave may be worn.
3. Makeup must be in good taste and not excessive.
4. Lash extensions or fake eyelashes are **not** allowed.

## Hair

1. Hair must be clean, well-groomed, and professional in appearance.
2. Hair must be always secured off the face and collar.
3. Long hair must always be secured in a neat mid to high bun both on campus and at all clinical sites. Headbands at least two inches wide, without logos and in navy blue, black, or white, can be worn to keep hair away from the face. In the Mental Health clinical, hair must be always secured in a bun.
4. Bangs must be secured off the face and must not obstruct vision.
5. Hair color must fall within naturally occurring human hair tones (e.g., black, brown, blonde, *natural* red, gray). Bright, fluorescent, or fashion colors (e.g., neon pink, yellow, blue, purple, green, and red) are not permitted. Hairstyles must be maintained professionally and must not interfere with safety, patient care, or required protective equipment.
6. Hair adornments are **not** permitted. Only small, functional hair ties, elastic bands, or bobby pins may be used to secure hair.

## Facial Hair

1. Beards and mustaches must be clean, short, and neatly trimmed.
2. Otherwise, male students must be clean-shaven.

## NAILS, JEWELRY, PIERCINGS, & TATTOOS

1. Fingernails must be clean and short.
  - No nail polish, gel nails, or artificial nails may be worn on campus and in clinical areas.
2. Jewelry is limited to:
  - One plain wedding band
  - One watch with a second hand
  - One pair of small, single-post earrings (Female students only)
  - Dangling earrings are not permitted.
  - No visible earrings (Male students only)
3. Necklaces are not permitted in both didactic and clinical setting.
4. Bracelets are not permitted in both didactic and clinical setting.
5. Multiple earrings or decorative pins on uniforms are not allowed.
6. No visible body piercings are permitted other than earrings.
7. All visible tattoos must be fully covered at all times:
8. Clinicals: Tattoos must be covered with a white long-sleeved undershirt, bandage, or adhesive bandage. Cosmetic products (e.g., concealer or makeup) may not be used to cover tattoos.
9. Campus (Didactic): Tattoos may be covered with a white or navy-blue long-sleeved undershirt, bandage, or band-aid. Cosmetic products (e.g., concealer or makeup) may not be used to cover tattoos.

## UNIFORM AVAILABILITY

Uniforms are available for purchase at **Christina's Uniforms** please contact Student Services.