Dress Code Guidelines for Nursing Students

It is necessary for Rush College of Nursing students to comply with the uniform regulations of a variety of health care agencies and the College of Nursing.

General

1. University - issued picture ID worn at all times.
2. Dress in Rush uniform for clinical practicum, unless otherwise directed by the clinical instructor.
3. Student uniforms should be worn only while engaged in activities related to the clinical practicum.
4. Students in the Community Health and Psychiatric Nursing rotations wear professional dress and may receive additional guidelines from their clinical instructor.
5. Students will follow professional dress guidelines whenever on clinical units (e.g., to pick up assignments) if not in Rush uniform.

These guidelines are subject to modification by the clinical instructor, based on their best judgment, individual students' religious or cultural practices, the sensibilities of the client population, and the dress code of the particular clinical unit/agency in which the students are practicing.

Rush Uniform Clothing

- White scrub top with Rush logo and green scrub pants. A white or black turtle-neck or t-shirt may be worn underneath the scrub top.

Shoes

- Shoes may be white or black and have closed toes and heels. Leather athletic-style shoes are allowed as long as they are clean and used solely for work purposes.
- Shoes and shoelaces must be clean.

Undergarments

- White or black socks are worn with scrub pants.

Professional Dress Clothing

- Laboratory coat as appropriate. The College of Nursing patch is worn on the left shoulder of the sleeve. Shirt, sweater, and/or blouse with pants or skirts, dresses.
- Inappropriate clothing would include: Sweatshirts, sweat pants, tight or sleeveless shirts; tops with lettering, pictures or hoods; stirrup pants, leggings, Capri pants, shorts, skorts or blue jeans; tight or revealing clothing; visibly worn or faded clothing; belly shirts, low-cut necklines; open-backed clothing or visible cleavage.

- Clothing should be clean and wrinkle free. Clothing should not reveal undergarments.

- Dresses and skirts must reach the top of the knee; culottes are acceptable if they reach the knee.

Shoes

- Sturdy, clean shoes with closed toes and heels. Inappropriate shoes would include platform shoes, high heels, or high top athletic shoes and sandals with skirts, culottes, or dresses.

- Additional guidelines applicable to Rush Uniform and to expectations for Professional Dress.

Hair

- Hair is styled so that it does not interfere with patient care or safety.

Jewelry

- Conservative jewelry may be worn if it does not interfere with patient care or safety. Wear a watch with a second hand. With the exception of the ear, no other visible pierced body parts may have jewelry or posts.
- Multiple ear rings or posts is not acceptable. Only one post per ear is acceptable.
- Inappropriate jewelry would include buttons, pins or jewelry with provocative messages.

Cosmetics

- Conservative make-up. No perfume or cologne is preferred. Lightly scented personal care products may be used if necessary.
- Conservative nail polish.

Hygiene

- Short nails.
- Clean personal hygiene.

Tattoos

- To the extent possible, tattoos should be covered if they are perceived as affecting the student-client interaction and, thus, the delivery of effective, safe care.