

VERMONT TECH NURSING

2021 Appearance/Uniform Policy

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

- A school uniform is required and must be worn in the clinical and laboratory settings at all times.
- Uniforms are to be clean and wrinkle-free.
- Pants must cover the entire leg and be short enough that they do not touch the floor.
- Students may wear a solid white $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeve cotton knit shirt underneath their uniform top for comfort. Some agencies may not allow this.
- A student name badge or photo ID required in the clinical setting, per facility policy, and must be worn any time the student is in the clinical/preceptorship area.
- Hair must be confined, off the collar, and away from the face at all times. There shall be no ornamentation in the hair. Hair must be a natural color. If something is needed to keep the hair confined, it should be non-ostentatious. Gentlemen are allowed to have a moustache and a beard which must be neatly trimmed and close 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, solid, plain texture white or black shoes with closed toe and heel. No “Mary-Jane” style shoes.
- Socks are to be worn and must match the color of the shoe. “No-show” socks are not acceptable.
- Bandage scissors, a penlight, stethoscope, 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. Earlobe gauges may be no larger than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and must match the student’s skin tone. No other jewelry or piercing is permissible.
- Nails must be kept short and bare. Colored nail polish and acrylic/false nails may not be worn.
- No gum chewing is permitted in clinical areas.
- When in the clinical agency, but not in uniform, students will wear their name badge and a lab coat over their street (business casual) clothes. Some sites may not require a lab coat; only a name badge.
- The odor of cigarettes is not allowed or tolerated.
- Students will refrain from wearing perfume or fragrant lotions or hair products to the clinical agency area.
- Tattoos deemed offensive by the clinical agency/clinical instructor/preceptor and/or Site Director will be covered. Facial tattoos must be concealed with make-up.
- No visible dermal implants.
- A hijab may be worn but it must be white or black in color and secured in a fashion as to not interfere with infection prevention.

Interpretation of this policy will be at the discretion of the clinical instructor/preceptor. Students will be expected to adhere to this decision. Students who fail to meet these guidelines will be sent home. This absence will be counted as a clinical absence that is not able to be made up, or preceptor hours will be rescheduled.