

Dress Code for USA Whiddon COM Medical Students

1. Purpose

University of South Alabama Frederick P. Whiddon College of Medicine (COM) M.D. students are expected to maintain standards of professional dress in all educational and clinical learning environments while participating within campus, the USA Health system and USA Health facilities. A professional appearance is one that contributes to a positive, respectful, and safe environment for patients, staff, and the public.

2. Applicability

This policy applies to all Whiddon COM M.D. students (hereafter referred to as medical students) participating in on campus classroom activities, small group learning sessions, Clinical skills, CLINIC assignments, clinical clerkships and courses at USA hospitals and clinics and clerkship

4.3.3 Radical departure from conventional dress or grooming, in the sole discretion of the WCOM is not permitted. Appearing in these environments in clothing and/or with hairstyles or coloring that results in distraction for others, including employees, patients, other students, visitors, or guests or disruption of the work flow within the environment, in the sole discretion of the WCOM, could result in a change of duty assignment.

4.3.4 Hair must be worn in such a way as to not interfere with the ability to provide patient care. When providing direct patient care, hair longer than shoulder length must be contained.

4.3.5 Jewelry should be professional in appearance and should not interfere with patient examinations or procedures. If body piercings in the mouth and tongue interfere with the student's ability to communicate with the patient, the student may be asked to remove them during the assigned curricular time.

4.3.6 Medical Students should refrain from wearing heavily scented lotions, fragrances and colognes.

4.3.7 All medical students must follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommended guidelines for hand hygiene to prevent transmission of microorganisms. The following are prohibited for students with direct or potentially direct patient contact:

1. All artificial nails
2. All nail extenders
3. Natural nails longer than 0.25 inch in length
4. All nail polish in surgical and procedural areas

4.3.8 Dress and head coverings associated with professional, medical, and/or religious rationales or those required to be worn for reasons related to practice Department of Public Health regulations are permitted.

Cloth head coverings are allowed in the operating room in accordance with 18.5 (h)-4.8 (e) 1.9 (f) 6.7 (o)-3.8 (l)