

## Department of Nursing

### Uniform Policy

Professional appearance is a fundamental aspect of nursing practice. When attending professional practice placements, students and Professional Practice Facilitators (PPF) represent the Department of Nursing at The University of Western Australia and are expected to present and behave professionally at all times.

To ensure practicality for patient care and compliance with work health and safety regulations, including infection control, the Department of Nursing has established a uniform policy. All students and PPFs participating in face-to-face simulation blocks or professional practice placements must adhere to these uniform policy at all times.

Students or PPFs who do not comply with the dress standard will not be permitted to attend activities in the face-to-face simulation block and will be required to leave their professional practice placement.

#### General requirements

- The uniform must be clean and neat at all times and changed daily
- Students and PPFs are recommended to purchase at least two uniforms as they will be working consecutive days.
- At any time the uniform is visible to the public (including periods of travel to and from professional practice placement) students and PPFs are reminded you are representing the Department of Nursing and UWA and are expected to present and behave professionally
- Long sleeved tops, jumpers, cardigans, wrist watches or fitness trackers are **not permitted** in the clinical area in keeping with the [Bare below the elbows' principles](#)
- Professional Practice Facilitators are responsible for ensuring that nursing students comply with uniform policy.
- If a student fails to meet uniform requirements, the PPF must instruct them to leave the professional practice placement until they return in the correct uniform.
- Professional Practice Facilitators who fail to meet uniform requirements will also be instructed to leave the professional practice placement by the health service provider or university.

### Personal hygiene

- You are required to wash regularly and use antiperspirant to eliminate body odour

<b>Hair</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To be kept clean, neat and off the collar at all times</li> <li>○ Long hair to be secured (pony, bun or plaited/braided) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hair ornaments are <b>not permitted</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Facial hair- clean, neatly trimmed and compliant for wearing P2 respirators</li> </ul>
<b>Fingernails</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Short, clean and well-manicured</li> <li>○ Long, artificial/gel nails and nail polish are <b>not permitted</b></li> </ul>
<b>Jewellery</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Single, flat wedding band <b>only</b></li> <li>○ Wrist watches are <b>not permitted</b> to adhere to the “Bare below the elbows” policy (required to purchase fob watch) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stud earrings that sit on the ear lobe (Pendant, drop or hoop earrings are <b>not permitted</b>)</li> <li>○ Facial piercings and tongue posts are to be removed in the clinical setting</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Tattoos</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tattoos deemed offensive (e.g. symbolism/racism) must be covered appropriately</li> </ul>
<b>Mobile phones</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Must confirm with the health service provider if mobile phones can be carried on the person during a clinical shift.</li> </ul>

### Nursing student and Professional Practice Facilitator (PPF) uniform

- Visible UWA student/staff identification (ID) badge
- UWA nursing scrub top with embroidered STUDENT or STAFF text
- Plain black tailored, straight leg trousers
  - Tights, jeans, leggings or jeggings are **not permitted**
  - Trousers must not touch the floor
- Black or white socks
- Black or white shoes
  - Shoes must be non-porous (leather or leather like), completely enclosed and have a non-slip sole
  - Canvas or mesh runners, ballet flats, slip on shoes or Crocs are **not permitted**
- UWA jacket with embroidered STUDENT or STAFF text can be worn when not providing direct patient care

### **Mental health, theatre placements and approved community settings**

- Refer to placement information on SONIA for details advising if UWA uniform is not required and specific attire is to be worn.
- Neat and professional attire must be worn, students not adhering will be asked to leave the site
- UWA approved student ID badge to be worn at all times.

- The following attire is not permitted:
  - Midriff or low-cut tops, shoe-string tops/dresses
  - Jeans, leggings, jeggings, cargo pants, wide legged trousers, shorts, skirts
  - Clothes with overt commercial advertising/offensive pictures or writing
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### Students or PPFs observing cultural and/or religious practices

Please discuss your cultural or religious practices affecting your ability to comply with the uniform policy with the [Simulation and Professional Practice Lead](#) so this can be discussed and communicated as required.

- Black skirt
  - Must not restrict movement or touch the ground
- Under garment (e.g. tunic, top)
  - Must be fitted, long sleeved, non-pilling in white or black
  - Must comply with “Bare below the elbows” infection control principles. I.e. sleeves must be rolled up above the elbow during provision of care and in all handwashing procedures to maintain asepsis
- Headwear
  - Must not cover any part of the face
  - Must be fitted (tucked and pinned) and always tucked into scrub top
  - Colour must be plain black or plain white (no prints)
  - Plain black or plain white patka/keski turban
  - Burka/Burqa, Hijab/Khimar are **not permitted** due to “Bare below the elbows” infection control principles

Students or PPFs must not wear or carry personal items that could potentially cause harm or be perceived as harmful (e.g., necklaces or items capable of cutting). However, alternative permitted options may be worn if they comply with religious requirements and do not compromise the actual or perceived safety of any person. For example, a necklace may be carried in a pocket rather than worn around the neck, or a small, blunt religious symbolic knife (Kirpan) may be securely fastened to the body of Amritdhari Sikhs. Students or PPFs must seek approval for alternative arrangements from the [Simulation and Professional Practice Lead](#) so this can be discussed and communicated as required.