Guidelines for Professional Appearance

The student nurse uniform represents RMU Nursing and must project cleanliness, good grooming, and a professional image in all clinicals, community, and lab settings. A professional appearance must always be maintained.

Dress Code for Nursing Students (Hospital, Lab, and Community Agency Uniforms)

- Clothing must be clean, neat, and odor free, with appropriate undergarments always worn and not visible.
- Exceptions to the dress code are permitted related to cultural or religious beliefs.
- For clinical environments, simulation, and lab settings: navy blue scrub V-neck top with the school emblem on the left chest pocket and navy-blue scrub pants. Option for a white or navy-blue shirt underneath.
- For settings where scrubs are not preferred, faculty may direct you to wear professional dress other than scrubs: A polo shirt should be worn with business casual attire, along with khaki dress pants or navy blue dress pants. No capris, cropped pants, jeans, or leggings. Attire is at the discretion of the course instructor and clinical agency.
- Shoes must be clean. White, navy, or black, closed-toed leather or vinyl athletic shoes are permitted. Socks or stockings must be worn in clinical areas.
- No fabric, mesh shoes, or open backs will be permitted.

Identification Badge

- The photo ID badge includes the student's name and Robert Morris University and is to be worn above the chest pocket.
- A photo ID badge must always be worn.
- No attachments are to be placed on the identification badge (no pins or stickers).
- The uniform must be purchased through the chosen school supplier and can be ordered at any time as needed by the student.

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Department of Nursing
Undergraduate Nursing Students

General Appearance for All Nursing Students

In consideration for infection control and patient safety:

- **Hair**
  - Hair: Must be clean, neatly groomed, and styled professionally off the collar. Long hair must be tied back with simple accessories during patient care to prevent contact with patients.
  - Facial Hair: Male students must be clean-shaven or have a neatly trimmed beard, mustache, or sideburns.
- **Makeup**
  - Any make-up that is used is to be applied so a natural look is conveyed.
- **Nails**
  - Length & Appearance: Nails must be clean, neat, manicured, and short, extending no more than ¼ inch past the fingertip.
  - Nail Polish: Permitted if kept in good repair without embedded enhancements. Some guidelines limit colors to clear or light pink shades.
  - Artificial Nails & Overlays: Strictly prohibited in patient care areas, direct patient contact, or patient environments. Includes acrylics, gels, press-ons, wraps, tips, bondings, decorations, and nail ornamentation.
- **Other:**
- **Jewelry and Piercings**
  - Only a smooth band ring is permitted. Small hoop earrings. Visible piercings must follow the specific agency's policy.
- **Tattoos**
  - Students may display tattoos if the words, symbols, or images are not offensive. Examples of tattoos that are inappropriate for display include, but are not limited to, those depicting or representing racial, sexual, religious, ethnic, political, or other characteristics or attributes of a sensitive, discriminatory, or derogatory nature, or those that depict nudity, violence, sexually explicit content. If it is determined a student's tattoo(s) does not comply with this policy, the student will be required to cover the tattoo(s).
- **Scented Products:**
  - Perfumes, colognes, after-shave, and other scented products are not to be worn in patient care areas. Therefore, special attention should be given to personal hygiene and its impact on those around us.
  - Presenting at clinical or lab smelling of smoke is not permitted.

It is the responsibility of each student to follow these regulations. Non-compliance with these regulations can result in dismissal from the clinical or lab setting for that day. In addition to this policy, students must follow all agency dress code policies.

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