



### **Professional Appearance**

Students of the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy program are expected to present an appearance consistent with the highest professional standards and competence. The image should be modest and consistent with the mission and philosophy of Loma Linda University.

To that end, professional appearance standards are applied during scheduled school hours in classrooms, laboratories, chapel, all campus facilities used for physical therapy education purposes, clinics, and off-campus assignments. The intent of the appearance standards is to create a professional culture and environment.

### **Professional appearance standards**

Appearance must be modest, neat, clean, and conservative in style.

- For Men:
  - Slacks or professional long pants such as khakis must be worn.
  - Shirts must be neatly pressed and have collars.
  - Scrubs may be worn as an alternative (see below for standards)
- For Women
  - Dresses and skirts must approximate or fall below the knees
  - Pants, if worn, must be dress pants.
  - Women must wear modest tops.
  - Scrubs may be worn as an alternative (see below for standards)
- Shoes must be clean and in good repair
- Scrubs
  - Scrubs must be neat, clean and professional in appearance
  - Scrubs must be of a solid color
  - Tops and bottoms must match or the Department polo shirt with scrub bottoms.
  - A plain t-shirt (long or short-sleeved) with a crew or v-neck may be worn under the scrub top and must be tucked in at the waist.
- The following are considered inappropriate for professional attire:
  - T-shirts worn as outer garments
  - Visible undergarments
  - Denim clothing of any color
  - Shorts
  - Halter tops, tank tops, midriffs, or “spaghetti” straps
  - Sweat pants
  - Leggings (aka: yoga pants)

- Hats, caps, beanies, or hoods of sweatshirts worn indoors
- Flip flops
  
- Hair must be clean, neat, and well-groomed. Facial hair must be neatly trimmed.
- Rings, if worn, should be low profile and limited to one finger per hand.
- Jewelry, if worn, must be conservative and professional.
- Ear ornaments, if worn, are limited to simple studs in the earlobe and should not drop below the bottom of the earlobe. Such ornaments are limited to one per ear. Visible rings or ornaments in other anatomical sites are not acceptable.
- Finger nails should be maintained in a professional manner, closely trimmed and should not interfere with patient safety and comfort during treatments. Nail polish, if worn, should be of a subdued color.
- Excessive makeup and fragrances are not appropriate.

### **Area-specific standards**

- Chapel – students must meet the standards listed above when attending chapel.
- Integrated Clinical Experience – Students must wear the Department black polo shirt and black or khaki colored pants.
- Laboratories – Lab dress will vary from course to course and will be outlined by the instructor.
- Clinical Rotations (Practicums & Affiliations) – specific dress requirements will be outlined in the Clinical Education Policies and Procedures Manual.