

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT DRESS CODE SUGGESTIONS FROM CAREER SERVICES

Career Services suggests an educational approach for discussing a departmental student employee dress code with your student workers.

Career Services offers a list of possible clothing and grooming items for student workers to avoid. Your department may have additional limitations or some specific dress or grooming requirements.

- A. To manage your first and lasting impression, you are expected to avoid wearing clothing that communicates that you would rather be sunbathing, clubbing, working out, working outdoors, etc.
- B. As a student employee you are representing our department/office to anyone with whom you interact. You want to be perceived as a team member and someone who is knowledgeable and who can provide appropriate and accurate information. You have only 7 seconds through non-verbal communication to create the impression that you are dependable, reliable, and will respond appropriately.
- C. Your appearance through your dress, your grooming, and your facial features will be the clues that people will use to determine if you can assist them as needed and have the knowledge necessary to provide accurate and reliable information.
- D. Below is a list of **clothing and grooming examples that interfere with your ability to communicate your effectiveness** as a student worker.
Examples of clothing and grooming items to avoid:
 - Tank tops with spaghetti straps; halter tops; visible lingerie (bra straps or whale tails); spandex
 - Tight or revealing clothing; spandex; leggings; belly shirts; extremely short shorts and/or mini skirts
 - Clothing that is stained, ripped or has holes; sweat pants; hats or sunglasses worn indoors
 - Flip flops; open toed shoes
 - Shirts with offensive words or pictures; athletic shorts; fishnet stockings
 - Clothing that promotes other institutions of higher education
 - Strong or heavy cologne, perfume or after-shave; heavy or evening make-up; unshaven appearance
 - Dangling, distracting jewelry
- E. When in doubt, don't! Remember that the more skin that is exposed, the more provocative you are. You are in charge of the message that you are sending. Do you want to send one that communicates your professional competence and abilities or one that is provocative and alluring?