Radford University
School of Nursing
DRESS CODE AND UNIFORM POLICY
JULY 2018

The School of Nursing believes that professionalism begins with appearance and attire. In striving to uphold a high professional standard, this policy addresses clothing requirements. The values of asepsis, client safety, and client sensitivity are also incorporated into this policy. No chewing gum in clinical.

When a student attends a conference or a setting where the uniform/scrubs do not have to be worn, business/professional attire is required. Whenever a student is representing Radford University, the student must be professionally dressed. There can be no jeans, short skirts, shorts, mid drifts, tank tops, sweat pants/yoga pants, leggings, tight clothing, low cut clothing, clothing showing undergarments, high heels, crop tops, camouflage or denim.

The School of Nursing Uniforms are to be purchased from the Radford University Bookstore. You may purchase them online or in the store on campus.

Radford University Bookstore
Fairfax Street/Dalton Hall
Radford, Virginia 24141
Jaime Hillman- Store Manager
Barnes & Noble Radford University
540-831-5498
FAX 540-831-6166

You are to order the following uniforms:

- Two Cherokee Gray Scrub Tops with Radford University Logo
- Two Gray Cherokee Scrub pants
  Additional tops and pants may also be purchased. There may be times when you will have 3 clinical days in a row. If you only have 2 sets of scrubs, you will need to wash your uniform before the 3rd clinical day, if this isn’t possible, you will need to have a 3rd set of scrubs.
- Gray Polo Shirt with Radford Logo Required as part of uniform in Nursing 352 clinical rotation. Polo shirt with Radford Logo must be purchased through the RU Bookstore.
- Black Slacks are to be worn with the Gray Polo Shirt when in the Nursing 352 clinical.
- Red or Gray Polo Shirt for Nursing 444 and Nursing 451 in Level 3 and 4. Khaki or black pants can be worn with the Gray or Red Polo Shirt.
- Khaki or black pants can be purchased anyplace of your choosing. Pants must be made of material thick enough to prevent seeing underwear through the fabric.
• Radford University School of Nursing Photo ID Name Tag. First and last initial only will appear on the name tag. (Will be purchased from RU ID Services at the opening of the semester).
• Additional items as desired.

The basic student uniform for male and females will consist of the following:

A. Radford University School of Nursing Cherokee Gray Scrub Tops.
B. Matching Gray pants – made from the same material as the top.
C. Pants hemmed to extend to and no more than one-half inch below the ankle.
D. The length of the top and height of the pants must be such that at no time will skin be visible in the break between the top and pants.
E. Uniform must be neat, clean, wrinkle free and free of offensive odors such as cigarette smoke or pet odors.
F. **OPTIONAL:** The following are optional for warmth or comfort:
   1) A solid white scrub jacket
   2) A solid white or gray long or short sleeve tee shirt worn underneath the scrub top
G. Shoes must be of solid material. Shoes cannot have mesh, fabric or be permeable to liquids or sharps. They must be clean, closed toed, closed backed, entire foot must be covered, (no clogs) in good condition, and appropriate to the clinical setting. Soles should be non-skid. Shoes can be made for health care professionals or tennis shoes as long as they meet the above specifications.
H. Stockings and/or socks must be worn.
I. For the purpose of infection control, begin each clinical day with a freshly laundered uniform.
J. No cloth covering on stethoscopes in clinical.
K. School of Nursing Uniforms/Scrubs should not be worn at any time students are not in clinical. They should not be worn during internships/externships or during employment.
In addition to the basic uniform, all students will adhere to the following:

I. Required identification:
   (1) An agency-specific picture name badge is required by some institutions and will be worn on the uniform at all times in those settings.
   (2) A Radford University School of Nursing name badge will be worn on the uniform when an agency-specific picture name badge is NOT required. This name badge will be made by RU ID Services and will be available for approximately $5.00 during the second week of the semester. The RU School of Nursing name badge must be worn on street clothes or lab jackets in all other settings for clinical assignments when an agency specified name badge is not required.
   (3) A Radford University ID Card
   (4) Replacement of ID cards and name badges will be the student’s responsibility and at the student’s expense.

J. Jewelry:
   (1) Allowed:
       (a) One pair or less stud-type, non-dangling post earring to be worn in the ear lobe(s). Irremovable piercings on any body part are not to be visible. Spacers and/or band-aids are not to be used to cover piercings.
       (b) A plain band worn on the ring finger of either hand
   (2) Required: A plain watch with a second sweep hand. Watch should be able to be cleaned daily with alcohol. No smart-watches or fit-bits should be worn in clinical.
   (3) **NO OTHER JEWELRY IS ALLOWED.** Visible irremovable piercings on any body part will not be tolerated for any clinical setting. Ear lobe expanders (gauges) are not permitted. No tongue or facial piercings are permitted.

K. Body art may not be visible outside of the uniform

L. Nails:
   (1) No colored nail polish
   (2) No artificial nails
   (3) Length to be a maximum of 3mm beyond the finger-tip or less

M. Hair:
   (1) If hair is longer than collar length, it must be secured up (back) with a band or clip and up off the collar. Long hair should not be worn in a pony-tail, it must be up off the collar. Hair must be away from the face and neck. Hair must be clean at all times.
   (2) Conservative hair ornaments only, if worn. No wide cloth headbands in
clinical.

(3) Men must be clean shaven or facial hair must be neatly trimmed and clean.
Beard, moustache, goatee are to be closely cropped, if worn

(4) Hair must be of a natural color - for example: blond, brown, black. No
unnatural colors, for example: purple, blue, etc. No unnatural streaks of
color.

N. Undergarments will be worn, and are not to be visible at any time.

O. Personal Hygiene:

(1) Cleanliness is expected. Overpowering scents are not to be used. Foul
odors, such as body odors, cigarette smoke and perfumes are unacceptable.

Either the course instructor or the clinical instructor will establish uniform requirements in some
community settings. Khaki or black pants and a gray or red polo shirt is acceptable in the community
setting. Identification, jewelry, hair, nails, body art, undergarment, and hygiene criteria noted above
are expected regardless of clinical setting.

In all clinical settings, the clinical instructor will make the final decision about each student's
professional appearance. If you are not properly attired, you may be sent off the clinical unit which
may negatively impact your course grade, including probation and/or failure for the clinical day

**PURCHASE OF STETHOSCOPE AND BLOOD PRESSURE CUFF**

**What to look for when purchasing a stethoscope:**

A stethoscope is an important piece of equipment for a registered nurse. It helps the nurse assess
and monitor a client’s blood pressure, heart rate, rhythm, lung sounds, abdominal sounds, and
bruits. When purchasing a stethoscope, a person can pay as low as $15 to $20 up to several
hundred dollars. Examine the stethoscope, put it in your ears, and listen with it. The BEST
stethoscope for you is one you can afford and one that has the features listed below:

- Earpieces should fit snugly and comfortably in the nurse’s ear.
- Binaurals should be angled and strong enough to keep the earpieces in place without causing
discomfort.
- Earpieces should point toward your nose and when you put them in your ears.
- The tubing should be flexible and 12 to 18 inches in length (longer tubing decreases should
transmission through the stethoscope)
- The tubing should be thick walled (internal diameter of 4 mm or 1/8
inch) to help eliminate transmission of noises caused by rubbing the tubing against other
surfaces.
- Before buying, listen to your own or another person’s heart sounds to determine if you can
indeed hear with the stethoscope you are considering.
- The higher priced stethoscopes may have adapters that you can purchase which allow you to
change off the adult chest piece for a child chest piece. Check the options listed with the
stethoscope packaging information.
• Based on advice of nursing faculty, it is best to purchase a traditional bell and diaphragm stethoscope instead of the new combination model with a one-sided chest piece that changes from bell to diaphragm by pressure.
• The School of Nursing will have a few child stethoscopes and blood pressure cuffs for use during the pediatric rotation. The neonatal nursery in the hospital has tiny models for you to use during that rotation. No need to purchase a stethoscope with Pediatric size chest piece.
• No cloth covering on stethoscope at any time.

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