School of Veterinary Medicine Policy Document 00.10: Dress guidelines for faculty, staff, and students

PURPOSE: The Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine is considered a professional academic program. The following outlines expected SVM professional dress and exceptions.

DATE OF POLICY: 08AUG2021

REVIEW: This SVM Policy shall be reviewed every odd-numbered year by the SVM Dean’s Executive Leadership Council. Revisions will be forwarded to the Office of the Dean for approval and publication.

BACKGROUND: We are a community of professionals who strive to exemplify professionalism in all we do. Personal appearance and dress are important in establishing and maintaining professional veterinary-client relationships. Our DVM curriculum introduces students to hands-on clinical care in their first semester. Furthermore, laboratories require appropriate protective clothing and biosecurity. Guidelines for individual courses will be included in each syllabus.

GUIDELINES FOR PROFESSIONAL DRESS

• The dress guidelines apply to regular activities during business hours or after hour organized events at the School of Veterinary Medicine including examination days.
• Clean shoes, boots, or dress sandals (closed toe where appropriate) should be worn.
• Long pants such as jeans or khakis, a plain T-shirt (Texas Tech themed messages and logos acceptable), a collared shirt, blouses, and dresses/skirts are examples of appropriate clothing.
• When coveralls are required for teaching laboratories, T-shirts may be worn underneath.
• Hats should be removed in offices, for indoor classes and laboratories, and for other indoor activities.
• During the clinical year, students will dress in the manner prescribed by the clinic in which they are performing the clinical rotation. During such rotations, name tags should always be worn.
• For small-animal surgical laboratories white coats should be worn over surgical scrubs until entering the surgical suite. Scrubs used on surgery days may not be worn outside the school before or after the laboratory.
• For graduate students or DVM students performing research activities, students should follow the direction of the director of the research project.

Exemptions

• Other personal accommodations may be requested through supervisory channels.
• Fridays are School spirit days. Scarlett and black clothing in general, and TTU apparel in particular, is encouraged. T-shirts are permitted.
• Faith-based head/face coverings are always permitted.
• For employees, inability to meet the dress guidelines should be discussed with the employee’s immediate supervisor.
• For DVM students, inability to meet the dress guidelines should be discussed with the Instructor of Record.