

Howard University
College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences
Division of Nursing
Undergraduate Upper Division

Excerpt from 2024-2025 UG Nursing Student Handbook:

DRESS CODE POLICY

Classroom Attire

Students enrolled in the Howard University Division of Nursing are expected to dress appropriately. Navy polo and navy scrub pants are required for both junior and senior upper division students. Business and professional clothing is expected for courses that require business and professional wear, i.e., Intro to Professional Nursing and Nursing Leadership. Students attending class virtual are expected to attend in casual professional clothing or clinical uniforms as directed by faculty.

Clinical Skills Laboratory Uniform Requirements

Students attending clinical skills laboratory (attending in person or virtually), are expected to dress according to the following guidelines:

- Hair is to be worn in a natural color (prohibited colors include pink, blue, purple, green, etc.)
- Hair is to be worn neatly and off collar (wigs, weaves, extensions etc. must comply with uniform policy)
- White nondecorative hair coverings related to religious/cultural customs may be accepted (no patterns, hats, or hoods)
- Eyelash extensions are not permitted.
- Make-up should be appropriate for daytime wear (natural look, a light touch is best)
- Only one pair of petite pearl, gold, or silver stud earrings, worn one per ear is permitted (no larger than 1 mm in diameter, no dangling or hoop earrings)
- Visible body piercings (including nose and tongue rings) or tattoos are unacceptable. Visible tattoos must always be covered.
- Fingernails should be short and neat, no polish. Nail extensions, acrylic or false nails are not permitted.
- Only wedding bands are permitted. Jewelry with stones and prongs are discouraged.
- Students are expected to have Howard University student I.D card in their possession

Nursing students are required to be in full, clean, ironed official Division of Nursing (DON) clinical skills laboratory uniform:

- Navy blue polo with name embroidered,
- White lab jacket with Division of Nursing patch affixed to the left shoulder
- Official white scrub pants
- Watch (waterproof with sweeping second hand, no electronic, apple, google, smart watches)
- All White non-skid rubber sole nursing shoe (clean, nonporous, heels covered, no clogs)
- White or skin tone undergarments, white socks, or stockings
- Name tag attach to left chest

Notice to Junior Students: Prior to Convocation Junior students are required to wear white V-neck scrub top, white scrub pants, white or skin tone undergarments, white non-skid rubber sole shoe, and white socks or stockings. A waterproof watch with sweeping second hand is also required. Junior Students will convert to wearing the official DON laboratory uniform after Convocation or as instructed by Course faculty and/ or Learning Resource Center Coordinator. Students assigned clinical at Washington Hospital Center or INOVA Hospitals will need a red V-neck scrub top with DON patch and tan kaki color scrub pants.

Notice to Senior Students: Senior nursing students' uniform will include the official clinical uniform of White scrub tops, white scrub pants, and navy scrub jacket. There is the addition of Navy-Blue Cherokee Workwear scrub pants for both Pediatrics and Psych-Mental Health Clinical rotations. The Navy scrub pants should be the official Cherokee Workwear style uniform pants, No joggers, split legs nor pants with additional colors. Students assigned clinical at Washington Hospital Center or INOVA Hospitals will need a red V-neck scrub top with DON patch and tan kaki color scrub pants.

Clinical Attire

Students are required to be in a full, clean, ironed uniform for clinical experiences. The female uniform consists of a standard white uniform, white hose, white shoes, and name pin. The uniform for males consists of white scrub pants, white V-neck scrub top (with DON patch), white socks, white shoes and name pin.

In specialty areas the student will wear the appropriate uniform which may include navy blue scrub pants for that area as designated by the faculty. Students are required to wear a Howard University Division of Nursing patch affixed to the left shoulder of the uniform top. It is the student's responsibility to obtain the designated uniform.

Information about the uniform requirement and appropriate attire for the clinical setting will be provided in the first clinical course.