NURSING STUDENT DRESS CODE

- Appropriate street clothes or uniforms are to be worn in the classroom.

  - Uniforms, only, should be worn to the clinical setting unless otherwise specified by the instructor. Students who are visiting clinical facilities in preparation for clinical assignments should also be in full uniform (as described below) or in appropriate street clothes with the lab coat* on top.

  - Uniforms should follow the criteria outlined below:
    
    o The uniforms are Landau Galaxy Blue V-Neck with two front pockets and matching elastic waistband pants/shirts.

    o The uniforms are embroidered on the left chest side in white script that reads: Santa Monica College Nursing Program

  - A white crew neck short or long sleeve undershirt, or tank top may be worn under the uniform. The sleeves of the short sleeve undershirt should not be visible.

  - Only Landau Galaxy Blue scrub jacket may be worn when providing patient/client care. It must be embroidered on left chest with white script that reads: Santa Monica College Nursing Program. The school patch is sewn on the left shoulder of the scrub jacket.

  - The white lab coat is three-quarter length with galaxy blue embroidery on the left chest side that reads the same as the uniform top.*

  - Uniforms must be neat, clean, pressed, and odor free.

  - Men and women should wear undergarments as part of their uniform.

  - White nursing shoes, with or without laces, and stockings or plain white socks are to be worn with the uniform. The shoes and laces should be kept clean at all times. Tennis shoes, athletic shoes, and clogs are NOT appropriate footwear with the uniform.

  - The student’s name pin, required at every clinical facility, is worn on the left side of the uniform. The school’s patch is available at the SMC Bookstore. It is to be sewn on to the left shoulder of each uniform.

  - The student’s photo I.D., provided at Station “D” on the SMC Main Campus, is required at every clinical facility and is worn as part of the uniform at the V-neck or on the right side of the top. Student’s photo I.D. must be readily visible at all times.

  - The student’s hair should be neat and off the face and shoulders. Extreme hairstyles and/or colors, either wigs or natural, are not appropriate. Brightly colored hair ornaments or clips are not appropriate.
Male students should keep their mustaches neatly trimmed to the contour of the lip line; their beards should be clean and neatly trimmed to the contour of their jaw and chin.

The student’s fingernails should be kept short and even with the fingertips, well groomed, and neat. Students may wear natural shades of nail polish. **Acrylic nails are not to be worn in the clinical setting.**

Jewelry is generally not appropriate with uniforms. Wedding bands, engagement rings or one simple flat ring may be worn. One pair of simple stud earrings may be worn in the ears. Costume jewelry, chain necklaces, body jewelry, visible body piercings, or brightly colored jewelry is not acceptable with uniforms.

Students may wear cosmetics in moderation.

Strong scents (perfumes, colognes, aftershave lotions, etc.) are not appropriate.

Sweaters are not appropriate while giving patient care. Only the Landau Galaxy Blue scrub jacket may be worn when providing patient/client care. However, lightweight white, pastel, or royal blue cardigan sweaters may be worn to and from the patient care area. Multicolored sweaters are never appropriate. Sweaters worn with the uniforms must be long enough to cover the tunic top.

Other required parts of the uniform in the patient care area include the following:

- A watch with a second hand or display
- A penlight
- Bandage scissors (5 ½” to 6” long)
- Hemostats (5 ½” to 6” straight or curved with teeth)
- Stethoscope
- Protective eyewear
- One-way CPR mask
- Notebook (5 ½” x 4”)

A washable white nursing organizer pouch may be worn with the uniform.

Conservative street clothes with pockets should be worn in the psychiatric setting.

Students who are not appropriately attired or well groomed may be excused from the clinical setting without earning credit for the day. If a student disputes the instructor’s action, the Associate Dean of Health Sciences will be asked to mediate and will make the final determination.

Non-compliance with the established dress code, including wearing of the lab coat for patient selection, may result in the student being dismissed for the clinical day and/or a statement of concern.
Classroom and clinical experiences are provided for each student to facilitate fulfillment of course objectives. The SMC Attendance Policy is addressed on page 185 of the college catalog. The attendance policy and procedures for the nursing program are located on this and the following pages.

**Tardiness**

Students are expected to arrive on time for all class and clinical experiences. A student who is tardy to clinical two or more times will be counseled by the Instructor of Record and will be subject to the following sanctions:

a) late three times in a course will be considered equal to one absence.

b) Statement of Concern for excessive tardiness will be instituted.

c) may not be allowed to remain in clinical.

d) Further tardiness will be considered excessive and may be a cause for course dismissal.

**Absence**

The SMC policy states that an instructor may determine when absences are considered excessive and may institute course dismissal as a consequence.

Students who are ill are expected to seek appropriate medical care. Students should not attend the clinical setting if experiencing an elevated temperature, a draining wound, a communicable disease or an inability to function. If there is any doubt as to whether or not one should be present in the clinical setting, the Clinical Instructor should be consulted and will make the final determination.

The Instructor of Record may request written medical approval and/or verification before allowing return to the clinical area.

Regardless of the number of hours absent, the student will still be held accountable for fulfillment of course (theory and clinical) objectives.

If a student is absent from clinical to the extent that objectives cannot be met, any of the following options may be applied at the Instructor’s discretion:

a. clinical make-up with the Instructor of record

b. course failure

In cases of acute or prolonged illness, or conditions requiring surgery, the student should consult with the Associate Dean of Health Sciences to determine the best course of action.

**Failure to meet standards of punctuality and attendance shall be considered in the evaluation and grading of student performance.**

**Procedure for Notification of Absence or Lateness**

1. If it is necessary to be absent or to arrive late for the clinical or classroom experience, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the Instructor and/or the clinical facility prior to the scheduled start time.