Uniform Policy
(2015-2016)

Students preparing for a nursing career bear the responsibility to conduct themselves and dress in a manner that reflects professionalism. Proper attire and appearance enhances both your credibility and that of the University with clients, their families, and agency personnel. **Professional conduct is expected at all times, e.g., not talking loudly, not chewing gum and no transaction of personal business in the clinical unit except for emergency situations.**

George Mason University, School of Nursing does not have a contract with a specific uniform company. Students are expected to select a uniform that reflects a professional appearance and one in which the college can be proud. Name tags must be worn both in institutional and community settings. Uniforms with a GMU patch should only be worn in designated clinical courses, and students should use good judgment in deciding where to stop while wearing the uniform. Remember that the uniform has been worn in a contaminated environment. Another source of contamination is jewelry. To insure client safety and prevent the transmission of microorganisms, bracelets, chains, necklaces, large earrings and rings with stones should not be worn in institutional and community settings. **Faculty has the responsibility and reserve the right to judge the appropriateness of a student’s attire, and may modify the policy in accordance with agency guidelines and standards.** Due to limited space for students’ belongings, avoid carrying purses or other valuables to clinical settings.

Beginning in the fall semester of the junior year, nursing students are required to wear a uniform in all institutional and lab settings. The first two name tags with a **green background and white lettering** are provided by the school; GMU patches may be purchased at the University Bookstore. Allow two to four weeks for the pin to be ready.

In health care facilities, proper attention to hygiene is more than common courtesy. In order to convey respect to clients and colleagues and because of health laws, isolation and aseptic techniques, students must maintain good personal hygiene. Observe proper bathing habits, use deodorant products to prevent odor, and avoid overpowering colognes and perfumes that can be offensive.

**Students must adhere to following guidelines:** **Institutional settings (acute care settings, long term care, extended care facilities and University Skills Lab):**

No waist packs may be worn due to the probability of cross contamination and the transmission of nosocomial infections

- **Identification:** Name tag, GMU patch. Sew patch on the left upper sleeve or attach with Velcro. No other type of button or pin may be worn.
- **Color:** Top: Pull over Hunter green top. Pant or skirt: khaki.
- **Note:** **Red scrub tops with the GMU patch will be worn at all INOVA facilities.**
- **Material:** Cotton, cotton blend.
- **Top:** Scrub material. Short sleeve with two pockets. A short or long sleeve white top may be worn under top.
Pant: Khaki uniform pants (elastic or tie waist) with two side pockets. No elastic ankle cuffs.

Skirt: Khaki, knee length with two side pockets.

Shoes: White (no canvas sneakers or clogs), polished, clean and in good repair.

Hair: Neatly arranged, off the face and uniform collar or tied back pony tail or braid. Discreet hair accessories. Beards and/or mustaches should be neatly trimmed.

Socks: Worn at all times. White socks with pants or neutral color hose to be worn with the skirt.

Sweater: (optional) Washable white cardigan, white lab coat or jacket with GMU patch.

Jewelry: Wedding bands only, a watch with second hand, one pair of stud earrings only; no other body piercing jewelry allowed. No chains, necklaces, bracelets, dangle or hoop earrings.

Nails: Short nails, clear nail polish only. No artificial nails or tips.

Tattoos: Must be covered at all times.

**Students will also need to purchase if you don’t already have them:**
1. A watch with a second hand.
2. Stethoscope: diaphragm with bell

Prices for stethoscopes vary. Any of the uniform stores listed in the attachment can help you with a selection.

**Please note that all noise-making devices (pagers, cell phones, etc.) must be turned off during class sessions and clinical sessions.**
Addendum to Uniform Policy

There are a variety of places to obtain uniforms, including Uniform City at Potomac Mills Mall, NOVA Uniforms, Lynford’s Uniforms, Gallo Clothing at 7-Corners, WalMart, JCPenney and many on-line stores like Lydia’s Uniforms, Life Uniforms, Jasco, etc. You can order patches at NOVA Uniforms or the GMU Bookstore.