

AC511: Bachelor of Science – Nursing (Honours) – BScN Uniform Policy

Policy Title:	Bachelor of Science - Nursing (Honours) - BScN Uniform
Policy Number:	AC511
Owner:	Senior Vice President - Academic
Approved by:	College Executive Team
Effective Date:	September 2021
Reference:	
Links to Other Policy:	BScN Clinical Practice Policy

St. Lawrence College is committed to making our resources fully accessible to all persons. This document will be made available in alternative format upon request.

BACKGROUND

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to:

Ensure that all St. Lawrence BScN students participating in clinical placements and working in professional settings are appropriately attired for the expectations of the nursing profession. The dress code ensures the safety of both the caregiver and the client; promotes mobility and comfort; reduces the risk of cross infection; projects a professional image; complies with the policies of the clinical area; and allows identification for security purposes.

Scope:

This policy applies to all students studying in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at St. Lawrence College while participating in Acute and Non-Acute clinical settings.

POLICY STATEMENTS

- The dress code as outlined in this policy is **MANDATORY FOR ALL STUDENTS YEAR I, YEAR II, YEAR III AND YEAR IV** of the St. Lawrence College BScN program.
- The BScN program has adopted a navy-blue uniform for acute care clinical placements (years 1-3) and casual business dress or uniforms (depending on the placement) for non-acute placements. Students must have an additional uniform (of a colour other than navy blue) for nursing laboratory sessions and/or 4th year acute care clinical placement and according to agency policy.

- Students who are not dressed appropriately will be sent home from the clinical area and will be required to make up the missed time with a fee (See BScN portal for cost).

MONITORING

It is the responsibility of the Senior Vice President, Academic and the Deans/Associate Deans to ensure adherence to the policy and to interpret the policy.

NEXT POLICY REVISION DATE

September 2026

SPECIFIC LINKS

APPENDIX A AND ATTACHMENTS

Procedure and Protocol

The following specifics are required elements of the Uniform Policy

Acute and Non-Acute Clinical Dress Policies

- Clinical uniforms are not to be worn outside the clinical setting. Students will change into uniform at the clinical placement agency and abide by the policies of the agency.
- Clearly visible identification tags must be worn during all clinical experiences (i.e., acute and non-acute/community). The identification tag requires the student's name and educational institution.
- If wearing long sleeves, the sleeves must move with ease over the forearm, to allow for thorough hand washing.
- Scented products may not be used (e.g. soaps, aftershave, deodorants, perfume, hairspray, powder etc.) due to environmental sensitivities. Products with offensive odours, such as cigarette smoke, must be avoided.

Acute Clinical Setting Dress Policies

Uniform:

- All students are expected to wear navy blue scrub tops and scrub pants (Years 1-3).
- Clinical attire must be professional in appearance and should be laundered and ironed.
- Appropriate fit. Clothing should not be low cut at the neck or tight across the chest and hips. There will be no exposure of the midriff and lower back.
- Undergarments should not be visible at any time. Sleeves in tops worn for direct patient care must be no longer than 3/4 length.
- Lanyards are not permitted.
- Clinical attire must not be worn outside of the clinical setting.
- For specific guidelines related to appropriate attire, consult the student handbook.

Non-Acute Community Setting Dress Policies

- While on clinical placement in community, including family home visits, students may wear casual business attire. Jeans, cargo pants and leggings are not permitted.
- All clothing must be professional in nature with the midriff, shoulders, and lower back covered.

Note: Additional requirements may be requested by acute and non-acute clinical settings, for which compliance is required.