TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Dress Code for Student Teachers

As a student teacher in a public school, you need to present a professional appearance to reflect your transition from college student to educator. When student teaching, conservative dress helps you establish authority and professionalism. Your dress should reflect modesty and not draw attention to you or distract students. Considering comfort and ease of movement is also important when choosing your clothes and shoes. To help you dress in your best interest, the following dress code has been developed.

- You are responsible for knowing and following your school district’s dress code. In addition to your district’s code, the Texas State dress code requires professional dress. Our dress code is based on good judgment about clean clothes, neat hairstyles, and acceptable hygiene. If a difference in dress codes between your district’s code and the Texas State code exists, follow the more conservative guidelines. If you are not sure about the acceptability of a garment, check with the supervisor or don’t wear it.
- The following are prohibited for all student teachers: Jeans with holes, tears, and wrinkles, t-shirts, tight fitting clothes or clothes which fit poorly and/or draw attention, visible undergarments, caps or hats indoors, tennis/athletic shoes (unless teaching P.E.), flip flops or sports sandals, piercings other than conservative earrings. Unusually colored hair may not be worn and all tattoos must be covered.
- These additional guidelines apply for women: Skirt and dress length should allow you to bend and move without undue exposure. Garments should not be so low, loose or tight that they are revealing. Your midriff should not be exposed. Tops and/or hip huggers that expose the waist, back or chest when bending or leaning are not allowed. You should not wear leggings, pantsuits of t-shirt material, nor crisscross or spaghetti straps.
- These additional guidelines apply for men: Shirts and pants should cover the waist, back, and chest. No tank tops will be allowed. Ties are not required.
- Consequences of inappropriate dress are severe. Students will be asked to return home and change, and the time missed will count as an absence from student teaching. A second offense will lead to automatic dismissal from student teaching. If the school has casual dress on Fridays or for field trips, student teachers may wear appropriately fitted school logo t-shirts (campus of assignment or Texas State t-shirts only) and casual clothes acceptable for the public school casual days. The other dress code guidelines still apply.