

Business Professionals of America Michigan Association

DRESS CODE

The purpose of the dress code is to uphold the professional image of the association and its members, and to prepare students for the business world. Advisors must teach members about professional dress and expect members to adhere to the following: *Michigan Business Professionals of America approved attire must be worn by all attendees—advisors, members, and guests—at all BPA conferences unless otherwise stated. Name badges are part of the dress code and must be worn at all times while inside a conference facility only.* The following constitutes approved attire.



Professional Dress for all assessment events, opening session/parade of presidents, annual business meeting, legacy launchers, campaign rally, dinner session, dance, and awards session. **Professional Dress** must also be worn for all events at all conferences (fall, regional, and state) unless stated otherwise.

Gentlemen are required to wear dress shoes and dress socks with the following:

- * Suit, dress shirt, and tie
- * Sport coat, coordinated dress slacks, dress shirt, and tie
- * Dress slacks, dress shirt, and tie
- * Dress slacks, sweater, dress shirt and tie

Ladies are required to wear dress shoes with the following:

- * Business suit or business dress
- * Skirt with coordinated blouse and/or sweater
- * Dress slacks with coordinated blouse and/or sweater
- * Coordinated slack outfit
- * Skirts and dresses must be no shorter than two inches (2") above the knee
- * Shoe heels must be three inches (3") or shorter
- * Open-toed shoes are allowed but be cautious about wearing shoes that are too casual



Business Casual for shopping, eating, and free time.

- * Business casual slacks including khakis or chinos
- * Business casual shirts including golf shirts or polo shirts
- * Business casual shoes including loafers and oxfords



Formal Attire, including tuxedos and formal gowns with formal dress shoes, is optional for the dinner session and dance. If an individual does not choose to wear formal attire, Professional Dress (as defined above) is required.



Dance requirements are in addition to the dress requirements stated above.

- * Shoes must be worn at all times. Casual shoes, which includes sandals and athletic shoes, may be worn. Flip-flops or thong shoes are not allowed.
- * Shirts must remain on, buttoned, and tucked in at all times
- * Dresses must not be too revealing and no shorter than two inches (2") above the knee
- * No see-through material allowed
- * No exaggerated plunging necklines
- * Dresses may be backless, as long as they are not cut below the waist line

Dress Code Specific to the State Leadership Conference:

- Students must be fully clothed when going to and from the pool. Sports attire with appropriate shoes (no thong shoes or flip-flops or bare feet) may be worn only when visiting or leaving the pool. Students may wear their bathing suits underneath their clothes and leave their clothes poolside with their towel. Towels are to be carried; NO towels may be worn around one's body.
- On Thursday only, students will be allowed to wear attire from the Business Casual category if coordinated with a Business Professionals of America shirt (T-shirt, Henley T-shirt, long-sleeve T-shirt, polo shirt, sweatshirt, etc.). Jeans, corduroys, and cargo pants are also allowed for Thursday only. Jeans, corduroys, and cargo pants cannot have any rips, tears, holes, etc.

NO!

Unapproved Attire

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| ✓ blue jeans+ | ✓ spandex | ✓ ragged clothes | ✓ thong shoes |
| ✓ colored jeans+ | ✓ yoga pants/ | ✓ athletic wear ♦ | ✓ slippers |
| ✓ corduroys+ | leggings | ✓ hats/caps | ✓ bare feet |
| ✓ cargo pants+ | ✓ T-shirts | ✓ coats | |
| ✓ overalls | ✓ midriff tops | ✓ sandals | |
| ✓ shorts/skorts | ✓ tank tops | ✓ athletic shoes ■+ ♦ | |
| ✓ cutoffs | ✓ halter tops | ✓ hiking boots | |
| ✓ lycra | ✓ tube tops | | |

- Items with a square are allowed during the state leadership conference dance only.
- + Items with a plus sign are allowed during the state leadership conference for arrival and the Thursday event only.
- ♦ Items with a diamond are allowed when going to and from the pool only.

Additional Guidelines:

- Low-cut and tight blouses, shirts, or sweaters, and bare midriffs are not acceptable attire.
- Clothing with sayings depicting violence, obscenities, drugs, alcohol, and tobacco is prohibited.
- Attire that is extremely revealing is not acceptable. Modesty is the key.
- Michigan BPA recognizes that professional appearance standards continue to evolve in today's business environment. Members are expected to maintain a professional, well-groomed appearance that reflects positively on the organization and prepares them for success in modern workplaces.

Body Modifications Guidelines:

- All visible tattoos and piercings must be tasteful, professional, and appropriate for a business and school environment
- Facial piercings are permitted provided they are minimal, professional in appearance, and do not pose safety concerns during business activities
- Ear piercings are permitted without gender-specific restrictions, provided they maintain a professional appearance
- Members are expected to use discretion in ensuring their appearance aligns with professional business standards

New fashion trends may be in style but may not be appropriate. The best choice is to avoid walking the line. If there is any doubt, select something else to wear. Be a business professional.

A Special Accommodations Form must be submitted for any student or conference attendee who requires a limited exemption from the Dress Code.

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