PROFESSIONAL DRESS

First impressions are key! Use these guidelines to help ensure you are ready for your interview or career fair.

- Skirts & dresses should hit at or just above the knee. Your thighs should be covered when you sit down. Avoid plunging necklines, and sheer or lace materials. Cover shoulders with a sweater or blazer.
- Keep items in neutral palettes or subtle patterns. Jacket sleeves should land just below the wrist.
- Make sure your nails are clean, an appropriate length, and have a professional look.
- If you choose to wear a tie, it should touch the top of your belt.
- Limit jewelry and remove any body piercings or multiple earrings. Ensure make-up has a natural look.
- Belt should match shoe color. Empty your front pockets and leave personal items in car.
- Keep your hair out of your face. Tie it back if you think you might touch it frequently.
- Make sure facial hair is clean shaven or neatly trimmed.
- Avoid strong perfumes or colognes that will be amplified in small interview spaces.
- Check new clothes for basting threads—remove from pockets, vents, and pleats.
- Choose neat, closed-toe clean shoes that are not flashy. Low heels or flats are the best options.
- Choose nice polished dress shoes with socks that match pant color. Make sure socks cover your ankles.

Different industries, like art or architecture, have different norms for professional dress. Ask professionals in the field for their advice.