

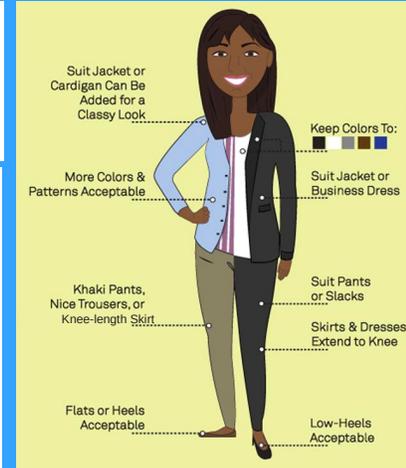
WASHINGTON DECA DRESS CODE

BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL

Opening and closing sessions, event competition, scholarship interviews, state/national officer interviews, mock interviews, workshops, or luncheons and banquets.

✓ APPROPRIATE ATTIRE

- Business suits / sport coat / blouses / dress slacks / trousers
- Professional dresses or skirts (knee-length required)
- Button down shirts (tucked in) / blouses
- Belts (if pants have belt loops)
- Dress socks or nylons (recommended)
- Dress shoes and conservative accessories
- ICDC competition: A tie, ascot or scarf is required for individuals wearing a collared shirt



✗ PROHIBITED ATTIRE

- Leggings and denim of any kind
- Caps, hats or bandanas
- Stiletto heels, athletic or boat shoes
- Sheer or stretch knit fabrics, or tight revealing clothing
- Low-cut or crop tops
- High-cut skirts or dresses or bike shorts
- Strappy tops or camisoles (unless under a blazer or sweater)

BUSINESS CASUAL

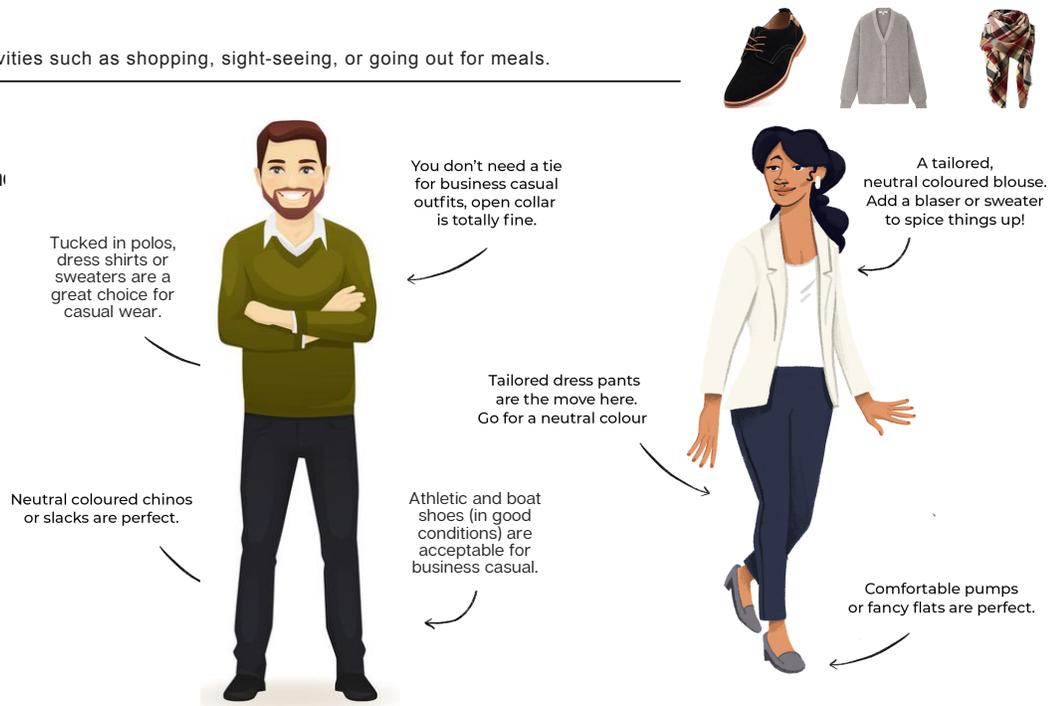
Travel to and from conferences and non-conference activities such as shopping, sight-seeing, or going out for meals.

✓ APPROPRIATE ATTIRE

- Casual slacks or khakis, blouse or shirt, socks and casual shoes
- Dresses or skirts (knee-length required)
- Polo shirts or button downs
- DECA t-shirts and sweatshirts
- Athletic and boat shoes (in good condition)

✗ PROHIBITED ATTIRE

- Leggings and denim of any kind
- Caps, hats or bandanas
- Strappy tops or camisoles (unless under a blazer or sweater)
- Unacceptable dress shoes include: Stilettos, flip flops or casual sandals, hiking boots and industrial work shoes
- Sheer or stretch knit fabrics, or tight revealing clothing
- Low-cut or crop tops
- High-cut skirts or dresses
- Bike shorts

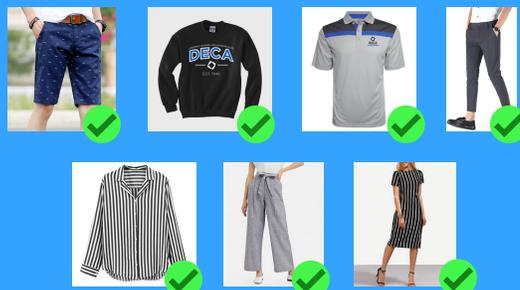


RECREATIONAL ATTIRE

For recreational activities such as swimming, utilizing the gym, running, going to theme parks, or participating in the ICDC 5K.

✓ APPROPRIATE ATTIRE

- Slacks, khakis, or cords
- Dresses, shorts, or skirts (knee-length required)
- Polo shirts or button downs
- Sweaters or blouses
- DECA t-shirts and sweatshirts
- Clothing and shoes appropriate for the activity



✗ PROHIBITED ATTIRE

- Leggings or denim of any kind
- Caps, hats or bandanas
- Sheer fabrics or revealing cuts or clothing
- Strappy tops, camisoles, low-cut or crop tops (unless under a blazer or cardigan), or swimwear
- Clothing or accessories with printing that is suggestive, obscene or promotes illegal substances or politics
- Unacceptable dress shoes include: Stilettos, flip flops or casual sandals, hiking boots and industrial work shoes

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHERE & WHEN CAN I WEAR RECREATIONAL ATTIRE?

Recreational attire should only be worn to and from the activity or event. For example, you can wear your gym clothes in the hotel hallway and elevator on your way to the gym, but do not wear your gym clothes in the hotel lobby or other public hotel spaces. Use an appropriate cover-up when going to a hotel pool; towels, robes, and revealing cover-ups are not appropriate. Shoes must be worn at all times while you are occupying a public space.

ARE OPEN-TOED SHOES OKAY?

Open-toed shoes are generally not considered professional. Exercise good judgment when wearing open-toed shoes or ask an advisor or chaperone for extra guidance.

CAN I WEAR JEANS OR ATHLETIC WEAR WHEN TRAVELING TO AND FROM A CONFERENCE?

Jeans and any type of denim are not to be worn any time during the conference, including travel to and from the conference, and athletic wear should only be worn for recreational activities during the conference. Business casual attire is appropriate for travel to and from conferences and DECA events.

CAN I WEAR PATTERNED TIGHTS OR NYLONS?

Loud patterns and graphics for any type of garment is generally not considered professional. On the side of caution, leave patterned tights and nylons at home.

ARE BIKE SHORTS ACCEPTABLE TO WEAR WITH A BLAZER?

Bike shorts are prohibited from being worn during DECA events unless being worn as athletic wear during recreational activities during the conference.

I DON'T HAVE ANY PROFESSIONAL CLOTHES. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Borrow clothing from a friend or family member if you can. You can find great deals at thrift shops such as Goodwill and at stores including Ross and TJ Maxx. Also consider JCPenny's and Macy's. You may still need alternatives to these stores and if so, reach out to your advisor who can be of assistance. An investment in a professional wardrobe will last a long time and can be used for future job and internship interviews!