



DRESS CODE EXPECTATIONS FOR UVM 4-H EVENTS

Clothing and behaviors, both verbal and non-verbal, can communicate a lot about a person. When participating in a 4-H event, or representing 4-H at a local, regional, state or national opportunity, 4-H'ers are expected to dress and act in a way that is appropriate for the occasion. The 4-H Program's top priority is the safety, both physical and emotional, of all of its members. Volunteers, chaperones and parents should ensure that 4-H members understand appropriate clothing choices and acceptable behaviors relevant to the trip or experience.

UVM 4-H encourages individuality within the guidelines described in this dress code. Participants are asked to use their best judgment, and to wear clothing that is best suited for a given activity. Volunteers, chaperones and staff need to be knowledgeable about the environment to which they take 4-H members, and prepare them accordingly with expectations around appropriate behavior and attire. 4-H'ers should also understand why they are being asked to dress and conduct themselves in a certain manner. This will reinforce the expectation about appropriate attire and further develop life skills in relation to how 4-H'ers are perceived by other members of society and what messages clothing can communicate.



Allowable Dress:

- 1) All clothing should be neat and clean. Clothing must always include at least both a shirt and pants/skirt, or the equivalent, and shoes. Clothing must be made of opaque materials (not able to be seen through) and have fabric both in the front and on the sides.
- 2) Clothing must be suitable for the scheduled activities, especially where unique hazards exist or where safety gear is needed. Specialized attire may be required.
- 3) Gender anatomy should be covered with opaque fabric (not able to be seen through). Clothing must cover undergarments, waistbands and bra straps excluded.

Non-Allowable Dress:

- 1) Clothing may not depict, advocate, or advertise the use of alcohol, tobacco, or any other controlled substances.
- 2) Clothing may not depict nudity, pornography, or sexual connotations.
- 3) Clothing may not use or depict hate speech targeting any group based on race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, ethnicity or any other protected group.
- 4) Articles of clothing that are degrading to any population, such as those that are racist, sexist, homophobic, are never acceptable.

*Here are suggestions for different occasions, often used in the professional world. An activity may dictate a specific dress type, check with your 4-H Leader or Educator about appropriate dress.

<p>Casual: travel days, evenings, community service, camp, club meetings, etc.</p>	<p>Business Casual: communication contests, conferences, workshops, interviews, etc.</p>	<p>Business/Professional: visits to legislators, more formal interviews, may vary by state</p>
<p>Jeans, shorts, leggings, t-shirts, flip flops, sneakers.</p> 	<p>Khakis/chinos, jeans without rips, dress pants, shirts with a collar, blouses, sweaters, skirts, boots or dress shoes.</p> 	<p>Suits, dresses, dress pants, blouses, ties, jackets, dress shoes.</p> 