

**VETERINARY HEALTH CENTER at KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**OFFICIAL PROTOCOL**

**APPEARANCE AND DEPARTMENT**

Personal conduct will be professional, ethical, and above reproach. (See Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics Opinions and Reports of the Judicial Council [1986 Revision] AVMA 87 Directory, Pg. 450454). Professional conduct, dedication to patient care and client service, and ethical behavior are viewed as a critical part of house officer and student training. House officers or students who use profane language, are inconsiderate in their actions, or cause disruption of the VHC's mission, in any other way, will be asked to leave the service.

Students should not discuss cases, with clients except when a senior veterinary student is assigned to conduct the initial examination or when specifically approved by the senior clinician. Refer ALL medical questions of professional nature to the clinician of record. Politely note that you need to include the clinician in the discussion to ensure the client is receiving accurate information.

Each house officer is part of the health delivery team of the VHC and as such has a professional commitment to the VHC service. House officers are not to obligate themselves to other practices during their assigned time on the VHC health delivery team.

Student, staff, faculty and house officers will refrain from wearing items of clothing (including jackets) that are proprietary or that promote a university or veterinary college other than Kansas State University. Hats and caps will not be worn in the VHC.

House officers and students are expected to have a professional appearance at all times. Lab coats and uniforms must be clean and neat. Lab coats must be washed frequently to ensure a clean appearance and prevent disease transmission.

The following uniforms are required:

**A. Small Animal, Dispensary, Radiology, Clinical Laboratory:**

- I. White jacket with proper identification.
- II. Dress shirt or dress blouse. Ties are no longer required as studies have shown them to harbor bacteria because they are infrequently washed. If a tie is worn it should be tucked inside or clipped to a shirt so that it does not accidentally come in contact with a wound.
- III. Dress footwear (sandals or other open-toed shoes are not permissible).
- IV. Dress slacks, appropriate length dress or skirt

**B. Large Animal Hospital, Field Service, Necropsy:**

- I. In-Hospital attire is pants (khaki or colored denim pants -not blue jeans) and scrub tops (purple preferred, but can be any color).

- II. Field Service & Necropsy: Clean coveralls with student identification and/or name tag as well as clean and protective/**washable** footwear.
- III. Surgery: Clean scrub suit.
- IV. Baseball caps, and sandals or other open-toed shoes are not permissible.

**C. Small Animal Surgery:**

- I. Clean scrub suit to be worn in surgery areas.
- II. Surgery shoes, to be worn only in the surgery area.
- III. White jackets.

**NOTE: Surgery scrubs and shoes should not be worn outside the health center.**

**REVIEWED:** 05/10/2018, VHC Director