DAILY DRESS CODE
For Males and Females
Youth and Adults

The dress code is designed to assure that each delegate brings the appropriate attire resembling a school and community expectation.

4-H’ers are expected to adhere to standards of dress and appearance that are compatible with an effective learning environment. Presenting a bodily appearance or wearing clothing which is disruptive, provocative, revealing, profane, vulgar, offensive or obscene, or which endangers the health and safety of the youth or others is prohibited.

Examples of prohibited dress or appearance include but are not limited to:
- Exposed undergarments
- Sagging pants
- Excessively short or tight garments
- Bare midriff shirts
- Strapless shirts
- Attire with messages or illustrations that are lewd, indecent, or vulgar or that advertise any product or service not permitted by law to minors
- Head covering of any kind inside except special circumstances (please see a state staff member)
- See-through clothing
- Attire that encourages indecent exposure
- Any adornment such as chains or spikes that reasonably could be perceived as or used as a weapon
- Any symbols, styles or attire frequently associated with intimidation.

** Do Not Bring These Items:
- Tube tops, halter tops, one-shoulder tops, strapless tops, casual tops with spaghetti straps, dresses/tops/pants/ skirts that expose midriff, navel, back or cleavage.
  (Congress clothing must conform to dress code.) However, see special note on semi-formal wear for the Congress Closing Banquet
- See-through or muscle shirts.
- Clothing that advertises alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or drugs.
- Clothing that has vulgar, obscene or offensive messages or images.
- Cut-offs, ripped jeans or other clothing with holes.

Additional Appearance Guidelines for State 4-H Events
- General appearance should be neat and clean.
- A State Staff member, 4-H Agent or other 4-H Volunteer may ask any individual to modify their clothing selection if standards of decency in appearance are not met.
- Hats and caps should not be worn during any activity unless otherwise noted. This applies to both girls and guys.
• Pajamas, sleepwear or outfits with visible undergarments are not appropriate dress for any Congress activity or outside sleeping rooms.
• Dress and appearance should not present health or safety hazards or cause disruption.
• Bare feet are not appropriate for any 4-H activity. Conventional shoes or sandals are required. No open toe shoes are allowed for Hands To Service during 4-H Congress! Those who wear open toe shoes for Hands to Service will not be allowed to participate.
• Flip Flops are not to be worn if a 4-H’er is to be recognized for any reason during any 4-H Event at the District and State Level.
• Any 4-H’ers and or adults who are being recognized at any time during any District, State or National 4-H event must be dressed appropriately. You must follow the Business Causal rule at a minimum.

For examples of WHAT NOT TO WEAR, refer to the diagram below, created by California 4-H Alum, Cindy Sperry.

**BUSINESS ATTIRE**

- Males: Dress pants; button-up, collared shirts; Coat and Tie required
- Females: Dresses, Suits, Pantsuits, COMFORTABLE but dressy shoes
- Females: All skirts should be no more than 1 inch above knee
- NO Denim, Cargo Pants, Shorts, Athletic Attire, Polo Shirts
- NO Tennis Shoes or Sneakers

**BUSINESS CASUAL**

- Males or Females: Khakis or similar casual pants, polo-style knit shirts, button up shirts
• Females: All skirts should be no more than 1 inch above knee, khakis or casual pants, polo-style knit shirts
• No Cargo Pants, Shorts, Or Athletic Attire
• NO Tennis Shoes or Sneakers

CASUAL
• Males or Females: Jeans, Khakis, T-Shirts, tennis shoes
• No cut offs or worn jeans with holes

CORPORATE ATTIRE
• Males: Khakis or dress pants; button-up, collared shirts; Tie-preferred
• Females: Nicer blouses, dress pants or skirt; Pantsuits, Dresses
• Females: All skirts should be no more than 1 inch above knee
• NO Denim, Cargo Pants, Shorts, Athletic Attire
• NO Tennis Shoes or Sneakers

FORMAL ATTIRE
• Females: Any formal or semi-formal dress or blouse with straps smaller than three fingers wide, must have a cover-up, such as a shawl or shrug. Dress or shirt bodice must not extend below the armpit.
• Dresses from knee to floor length or pants suits appropriate for a prom or similar dress up activity. This could include a dressy outfit worn to an event at your church, synagogue or mosque.