

Business Professionals of America Dress Code

The purpose of the dress code is to uphold the professional image of the association and its members and to prepare students for the business world. Advisors must teach members about professional dress and should expect members to adhere to the following: Business Professionals of America approved attire must be worn by all conference attendees—advisors, members, and guests—at all BPA sessions unless otherwise stated. Name badges are part of the dress code and must be worn at all times. The following items constitute approved attire.

Professional Dress

Professional Dress for the Assessment Events, Chapter Presidents Meeting, Opening Session/Parade of Presidents, Voting Delegates Session, Mini-Sessions, Judges' Review, Campaign Rally, Dinner Session, Dance, and Awards Session. Professional Dress must also be worn for all events at the Regional Leadership Conferences.

Gentlemen are required to wear dress shoes and dress socks with the following:

- Suit, dress shirt, and tie
- Sport coat, coordinated dress slacks, dress shirt, and tie
- Dress slacks, dress shirt, and tie
- Shirt and/or sweater and slacks (tie preferred but not required)

Ladies are required to wear dress shoes and dress socks or hose with the following:

- Business suit or business dress
- Skirt with coordinated blouse and/or sweater
- Dress slacks with coordinated blouse and/or sweater
- Coordinated slack outfit
- Open-toed shoes are allowed but be cautious about wearing shoes that are too casual

Business Casual Dress (shopping, eating, and free time)

Ladies And Gentlemen may not wear items listed under Unapproved Attire at any time; however, they may choose to wear the following for shopping, eating, and free time:

- Business casual slacks including khakis or chinos
- Business casual shirts including golf shirts or polo shirts
- Business casual shoes (with socks) including loafers and oxfords

Formal Attire for the dinner session and dance (optional).

Gentlemen may choose to wear tuxedos.

Ladies may choose to wear formal gowns with formal dress shoes.

Business Professionals of America Dress Code

Unapproved Attire at all times.

- blue jeans
- colored jeans
- corduroys
- cargo pants
- overalls
- shorts/skorts
- coats
- cutoffs
- lycra
- spandex
- t-shirts
- midriff tops
- tank tops
- halter tops
- tube tops
- ragged clothes
- athletic wear
- hats/caps
- sandals
- athletic shoes
- hiking boots
- thong shoes
- slippers
- bare feet

Clothing with sayings depicting violence, obscenities, drugs, alcohol, and tobacco is prohibited.

Visible body piercing, other than ears, and tattoos that show are prohibited. Traditional ear piercing is approved for ladies (no more than 2 earrings per ear) and gentlemen (no more than 1 earring per ear). No piercing of eyebrows, lips, tongues, noses, chins, etc., is allowed.

New fashion trends may be in style but may not be appropriate. The best choice is to avoid walking the line. If there is a doubt, select something else to wear. Be a business professional.

Recommended Attire for Judged Events

The following attire is recommended for Judged Events. Students may choose to follow these recommendations or they may choose to wear Professional Dress. Students must not be penalized if they choose to wear Professional Dress for Judged Events.

Business Professionals of America Dress Code

Gentlemen

- Dress shoes with coordinated dress socks
- Suit, dress shirt, and tie
- Dress slacks, dress shirt, and tie
- Sport coat, coordinated dress slacks, dress shirt, and tie
- Reasonable conservative jewelry and earrings (no more than 1 earring per ear)
- No piercing of eyebrows, lips, tongues, noses, chins, etc.
- No tattoos that show

Ladies

- Dress shoes with coordinated dress socks or hose
- Sling backs, boots, clogs, and open-toed shoes are not recommended
- Colored hose that coordinate with the outfit can be worn
- Business suit or business dress (no side slits and no shorts)
- Skirt (no side slits) with coordinated blouse and/or sweater
- Skirts and dresses should be no shorter than 1 inch above the knee
- Reasonable conservative jewelry and earrings (no more than 2 earrings per ear)
- No piercing of eyebrows, lips, tongues, noses, chins, etc.
- No tattoos that show