

## **PAS Program Student Professionalism Policy**

1. All PAS students are expected to adhere to all university, college, and program policies and maintain professional standards in all interactions.
2. All PAS students are expected to adhere to the Student Code (<https://www.gvsu.edu/policies/category.htm?categoryId=2D0C8EF7-9959-9B01-959C403E725313F3#Section%205.0%20-%20Student/UAO%20Expectations>). The Student Code establishes standards of conduct to foster a community and environment where the mission, vision, and values of GVSU can flourish. These standards are embodied within a set core of values that include integrity, community, inclusion & equity, respect, and responsibility. The University's conduct process exists to protect the interests of the community and to challenge those whose behavior falls outside of these values and University policies.
3. The PAS student is a representative of the PA profession. The maintenance of a professional appearance and demeanor is expected at all times.
4. While attending classes or laboratory sessions on the GVSU campus, students may express their personal choice in dress; however, choices should be appropriate for the setting.
  - a. Exposed cleavage (anterior or posterior) and exposed abdomen are NOT accepted as professional dress.
  - b. For practicums or other standardized patient experiences, professional dress and lab coats are required.
  - c. For Clinical Applications lab, the expectations are that clothing allows easy, unobstructed movement of the body and body parts and modest exposure of the body regions being studied for the purposes of observation, palpation, percussion, auscultation, and movement analysis. Any exceptions to this policy must be reviewed with the instructor of record.
  - d. Open-toed shoes or sandals are prohibited in labs where needles or scalpels are used.
5. PAS students are expected to maintain a professional demeanor in all interactions with classmates, faculty, and PAS instructors that fosters learning and demonstrates respect for the instructor and fellow students. Student(s) who disrupt classroom instruction may receive an initial warning or be expelled from the classroom at the instructor's discretion. A second disruption within the same class session will result in the automatic expulsion of the student from the classroom. Any student expelled from the classroom will be referred to the PAS Student Academic Life Committee.
6. All PAS students should comply with the following dress code in all clinical settings:
  - a. All PAS students must be clearly and continuously identified as students during clinical experiences. All PAS students must wear their GVSU PAS program student identification badge. All PAS students participating in a Hospital Community Experience must also wear a student observer badge/tag.
  - b. Students should wear a short lab jacket unless indicated otherwise.
  - c. Students should wear socks and shoes suitable for the clinical setting. No open-toed shoes should be worn in any healthcare setting.
  - d. Students should maintain nail hygiene appropriate to the clinical setting. It is recommended that PA students do not wear artificial nails and should keep natural nails less than ¼ inch long.

- e. Students are recommended to avoid excessive jewelry that could interfere with patient care.
- f. Students should wear their hair in a style that does not interfere with patient care.
- g. Students are required to wear professional business attire. Students should be guided by the attire of their clinical preceptor and site. Students dressed inappropriately may be asked to leave the clinical site, which will result in an unexcused absence.
  - i. Students should avoid strong fragrances.
- 7. PAS students are expected to maintain professional behavior in all clinical settings.
- 8. Any student expelled from a clinical site will be referred to the PAS Student Academic Life Committee.