

SNM Uniform Guidelines

Students are required to wear full uniform and a clearly visible identification badge (ID), unless otherwise stated by the Clinical Practice Facilitator (CPF), Clinical Facilitator (CF), or the clinical facility/agency. Students must wear a clean, ironed uniform and present professionally at all times when on clinical placements, Continuity of Care Experiences (CoCE) and in clinical simulation settings. Infection control standards require uniforms be washed after each wear. Uniforms that become soiled while on clinical placement should be removed and students are advised to carry a spare uniform top with them. Students are expected to have a minimum of two uniforms for clinical placements. Students are NOT to wear the Edith Cowan University (ECU) School of Nursing and Midwifery (SNM) uniform top in public, including on public transport. Students are also required to conform to the clinical placement facility's organisational uniform policy. Failure to adhere to the uniform policies will result in a request to leave the clinical or simulation area immediately. **Not to be worn by students or CF/CPF: Jeans, leggings, shorts, cargo pants, ¾ pants, wide legged trousers.**

The SNM is transitioning between two **midwifery student** uniforms. Students are able to wear either of the two uniforms specified under the midwifery discipline below for the transition period of 2 years (ending Semester 2 2026). Students still enrolled in a midwifery course in Semester 1 2027 will be required to purchase the new uniform (purple scrub top and black trousers/dress pants).

Nursing clinical placement uniform

- Burgundy ECU SNM scrub top with embroidered ECU SNM logo and **black trousers/dress pants**.
- Navy ECU SNM vest with embroidered ECU SNM logo
- Black socks and all black shoes **OR** white socks and all white shoes. Shoes must be fully enclosed and the upper made of a non-permeable material, the sole non-slip.

Midwifery clinical placement uniform

- Purple SNM midwifery student scrub top with embroidered ECU SNM logo and blue or black trousers/dress pants.
- Navy ECU SNM vest with embroidered ECU SNM logo
- Black socks and all black shoes **OR** white socks and all white shoes. Shoes must be fully enclosed and the upper made of a non-permeable material, the sole non-slip.

Dual degree students are required to purchase both nursing and midwifery uniforms.

A singlet/tank top (i.e., no sleeves visible) is permitted to be worn under the uniform if preferred by the student (must be black singlet under the burgundy scrub top).

Clinical Facilitator/ Clinical Practice Facilitator uniform

- Navy ECU scrub top embroidered with the ECU SNM logo and blue or black trousers.
- Navy ECU SNM vest with embroidered ECU SNM logo
- Black socks and all black shoes **OR** white socks and all white shoes. Shoes must be fully enclosed and the upper made of a non-permeable material, the sole non-slip.

Clinical Facilitators are responsible for ensuring nursing and midwifery students abide by the uniform guidelines. Students and Clinical Facilitators are also required to conform to the clinical placement facility's organisational uniform policy. As such, it is pertinent that Clinical Facilitators role model professional behaviour by also abiding by the facility and ECU SNM uniform guidelines. The Clinical Facilitator must instruct the student to leave clinical placement until they are able to return in appropriate uniform as per the facility or ECU uniform guidelines. If a Clinical Facilitator/ Clinical Practice Facilitator is observed or reported not to meet the uniform requirements, they will be instructed to leave clinical placement or simulation learning area until they are able to return in appropriate uniform.

Jewellery

Jewellery is restricted to a plain wedding band, and earrings (studs only), must be kept to a minimum. Pendant, drop or hoop earrings are not permitted. For safety and hygiene reasons it is required that facial piercings be removed when in the clinical or simulation setting.

Makeup

Students are asked to consider infection control and professional standards of practice in relation to wearing makeup. If a clinical facility/agency deems your makeup to be inappropriate for the clinical setting you may be asked to remove it.

Tattoos

Visible tattoos must not be offensive to others. Tattoos that are deemed offensive, such as those containing inappropriate images or symbols, or racist content, must be covered appropriately while adhering to infection control guidelines.

Grooming

Short clean fingernails with absence of nail polish is mandatory. Nail extensions are NOT permitted and must be removed prior to attending any clinical practice or clinical simulation settings. Failure to remove nail extensions will result in removal from clinical practice or clinical simulation setting.

Hair must be tidy and off the collar and face at all times; long hair must be contained, plaited or braided and tied back, to allow compliance with standard precautions, including the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Hair ornaments are not to be worn.

Students in clinical settings must also address any concerns with facial hair in the context of wearing the appropriate respirator if required.

Students are required to purchase a fob/pin watch to maintain best practice for infection control and meet 'bare below the elbow' infection control guidelines.

Any Mental Health or Community Midwifery Clinical Placements

Students and Clinical Facilitators should check SONIA for facility specific uniform requirements as uniform may not, in some limited circumstances, be required in a mental health or community midwifery placement. Specific facility requirements are outlined on SONIA. ECU Student ID badges to be worn at all times. Appropriate attire is necessary, or students will be asked to leave the facility.

Suggestions of what may be worn: Blouses or shirts which are not revealing *or skin-tight*, shirts either buttoned or without buttons, with collar or without, short sleeved and above the elbow. Trousers such as those generally worn to other clinical placements will be appropriate, with closed in shoes. **Not to be worn: Jeans, leggings, shorts, cargo pants, ¾ pants, wide legged trousers, singlets, sandals, ballet flats or open topped shoes, low cut tops, no midriff showing, skirts above the knee.**

Cultural and religious uniform variations

- Black skirt- must not restrict movement, must finish below the knee and cannot touch the ground.
- Headwear- to be tight fitting, secured with clips and be plain black, must not cover any part of the face.

Sleeves below the elbow are not permitted in ECU simulation workshops or clinical placement. This is consistent with World Health Organisation and Australian healthcare infection control standards and practice guidelines.

If any student or Clinical Facilitator/ Clinical Practice Facilitator feels unable to meet the dress requirements due to culture, religion or other reasons, please contact the Associate Dean (Strategic Partnerships & Work Integrated Learning) t.beament@ecu.edu.au

If any student carries on their body any cultural artefact or article of faith, please contact the Associate Dean (Strategic Partnerships & Work Integrated Learning) t.beament@ecu.edu.au prior to commencing clinical placement.

Students must not wear or carry a personal item in a manner that may potentially cause harm or may be perceived to cause harm (e.g. necklaces, any item capable of cutting). Students may wear alternative permitted options where the item enables compliance with religious requirements but does not impact upon any person's actual or perceived safety (e.g. carrying necklace in a pocket not around the neck, a blunt small religious symbolic knife secured to the body). Please contact the Associate Dean (Strategic Partnerships & Work Integrated Learning) t.beament@ecu.edu.au prior to commencing clinical placement to approve alternatives.