PURPOSE: This policy is part of the overall emphasis on the importance of professionalism and defines appropriate attire and appearance within that context.

POLICY: Professional Appearance

SCOPE: This policy applies to all CMSRU medical students and visiting medical students.

PROCEDURE: This policy is based upon safety, concern for the patient, respect for others, an awareness of cultural competence, and the central importance of professionalism in medicine. Recent trends in clothing, body art, and body piercing may not be generally accepted by your patients, and should not be worn by medical students. Clothing should be clean and neatly pressed. Note that CMSRU ID badges are to be worn at all times.

The following will outline the expectations of CMSRU in matters of professional appearance:

Phase I - During most of the first two years of the curriculum, students will spend their time in lectures and small group activities where attire should be comfortable, neat and not distracting. When in clinical areas students are expected to dress professionally as outlined below. Avoid dress or attire that could be perceived as offensive to others.

Phase II - During the last two years, the following attire is required by the CMSRU unless a specific clinical activity dictates specific attire.

Rules of Attire:

- Male students are expected to wear dress pants and khakis are acceptable. Collared dress shirts are required and a tie is optional. Sneakers, sandals, and flip-flops are not acceptable footwear.
- Female students are urged to wear dress pants which fit well and are conservative. Skirts should be conservative and at a length no higher than two inches above the knee. The blouse or shirt
should be conservatively cut. Sneakers, sandals, and flip-flops are not acceptable footwear. Closed-toe shoes should be worn in the clinical setting for safety purposes.

**Other Rules:**
- Jewelry selection: Two earrings per ear maximum may be worn and must be appropriate for patient care areas. Nose piercings are not allowed. Bangle bracelets are not recommended.
- Makeup should project a professional image.
- Hair must be clean and styled in such a manner as to prevent inadvertent contamination during patient care and other professional duties. Unusual and unprofessional hair styles or color are not allowed. Long hair should be controlled in the back and unable to fall forward during laboratory and clinical activities. Facial hair must be neatly groomed or clean-shaven.
- Headgear that is not worn for religious purposes is not allowed. Fingernails should be clean and maintained at a reasonable length of ¼” or less. Artificial nails are not allowed due to health risks.
- Body art/tattoos should not be visible.
- Students not meeting expectations may be asked to remove themselves from a given setting and will be required to meet with the associate dean of student affairs and admissions.