

2013-2014 Abilene ISD Dress Code

The District's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards.

A student's dress and grooming should be clean, neat and in good taste at all times. A student's appearance shall not create a distraction from nor interfere with the normal orderly process of the instructional program or of the management of any school program.

The following specific guidelines must be adhered to in the matter of dress in all schools:

1. Appropriate and modest attire is required. Some examples of items not to wear include but are not limited to: off-the-shoulder apparel, tank tops, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, mesh tops, halter tops, see-through clothing, exposed midriff or backs, bicycle shorts, sunshades in the buildings.
2. All apparel, accessories and visible body markings must be free of references to race, alcohol products, tobacco products, drugs, sex, vulgarity, profanity, death, suicide or violence, either explicitly or by innuendo. Body markings on any part of the body must be reasonably covered in an unobtrusive manner if they are gang related or violate any provision of the dress code.
3. Clothing must be appropriately sized and worn at the waistline. No shorts, skirts, or dresses may be shorter than five inches above the top of the knee or higher than the extended fingertips, whichever is more modest. Clothing that is altered, slit, or frayed and exposes skin that otherwise would not be permitted, is not allowed. Leggings/tights are not allowed unless covered by an outer garment that is no shorter than five inches above the top of the knee or higher than the extended fingertips, whichever is more modest.
4. Clothing must adequately cover the student's body so as not to consistently expose any portion of underwear, cleavage, midriff or buttocks when standing or sitting with normal posture. Outer garments must cover undergarments (athletic shorts, pajamas etc.) at waist level.
5. Shoes appropriate for school must be worn at all times. See campus handbook as applicable. No house shoes. No shoes with wheels.
6. Hats, caps, hoods or any other head coverings are not to be worn in the building.
7. Hair should be clean and appropriately groomed and cut or styled in such a way that it does not cover the eyes. Students will not be allowed to spray paint or dye their hair green, blue, purple, pink, or other unnatural tints. The District also prohibits hairstyles and treatments that are unconventional, gang related and/or create a potential disturbance/distraction. Designs in hair and mohawks are prohibited for elementary and middle school students. See campus handbook for high school.
8. Visible body piercing or clipping jewelry is limited to the ears in elementary and middle school. In high school, facial piercings should be limited to clear or small studs. Body piercings should remain concealed at all times.
9. Any apparel, accessory or visible body marking that denotes gang-related association is prohibited (i.e. rags, bandannas, chains, spiked or studded items, or other physical alterations as identified by local law enforcement).

Prior to being disciplined for a violation of the District's dress code, the student will be warned that his/her dress is unacceptable and given an opportunity to make necessary changes. If appropriate corrections are not made in the student's appearance, the student shall be subject to discipline (such as ISS) after being afforded appropriate due process. Repeated offenses may result in additional disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Judgments as to what is neat, clean, modest, immodest, appropriate, or inappropriate will be made by the principal and the decision of the building principal in these matters is final.