Northern Michigan University
Food Service Operations, AAS & Hospitality Leadership, BS
Student Handbook

Standardized Uniform & Personal Hygiene Policy

The uniform policy applies to all lab coursework during and outside classroom hours, volunteer opportunities, and club or association endeavors for students and faculty. Upholding this policy reflects high professional appearance standards by instructors and students to ensure that sanitation and safety policies are met per state and/or local food service regulations and that accreditation standards through the American Culinary Federation Education Foundation Accrediting Committee are upheld.

"NMU Standardized Uniform Requirements" refers to the program's preselected and embroidered chef wears.

Culinary Lab / Back-of-House Uniform Policy:

1. List of NMU Standardized Uniform Requirements provided by the program via course service fee (see note below):
    1. NMU Standardized Chef Jacket (one long and one short-sleeved provided)
    2. NMU Standardized Chef Pants (two pairs provided)
    3. NMU Standardized Beret (two provided, additional options available to ensure hair restraint based on individual need)
    4. NMU Standardized Digital Thermometer (one provided)
    5. NMU standardized Apron (provided daily via rental service)

    Note: The above uniform requirements are provided via the HM115 Professional Cooking I course service fee. Students who are not required to take HM115 and students who require replacement items must purchase these uniform pieces through the program. Costs are based on the program's annual evaluation of the service fee.

2. List of NMU Standardized Uniform Requirements provided by the student (see note below):
    1. Black, non-absorbent, non-slip, close-toed shoes (no mesh shoes allowed)
    2. Blank white short/long sleeve shirts (To be worn under chef coats. If a logo is visible through the coat, it will not be permitted)
    3. Black permanent marker (sharpie)
    4. Black or blue ink pen
    5. Pocket-sized notebook

    Note: Students are expected to have the above student-provided materials by the beginning of the third week of the first semester to ensure safety and sanitation in the culinary lab.

North Fork Restaurant / Front-of-House Uniform Policy:

1. List of NMU Standardized Uniform Requirements provided by the program (see note below):
    1. Name tag
    2. Apron
    3. Black, full-length, or ¾ length-collared dress shirt

4. Themed accessories

Note: The program provides the above uniform requirements based on the course/event needs commonly designated by the student body to fulfill service needs.

2. List of NMU Standardized Uniform Requirements provided by the student (see note below):
    1. Black, full-length dress pants or black knee-length or longer skirt
    2. Black undershirt as needed
    3. Black, non-absorbent, non-slip, close-toed shoes (no mesh shoes allowed)
    4. Black socks
    5. Front-of-house hair restraint as required (see personal hygiene below)

Note: The above uniform requirements outline the most common uniform needs for operating the program's North Fork restaurant. These requirements are subject to change based on event styling. Each event will require a uniform check-in date, on which clothing selections will be assessed for fit to ensure safety, sanitation, and uniformity.

All Uniform Personal Hygiene and Jewelry Policy:

Personal Hygiene:

1. Uniforms must be clean and free of significant stains or wrinkles.
2. Chef coats must be fully buttoned and long sleeves folded to prevent dragging.
3. Pants should be worn at the waist and no less than ankle length but not touching the ground.
    1. Denim jeans, joggers, and yoga-style pants are not permitted.
4. Hair must be restrained based on position type.
    i. Back-of-house positions require all hair to be restrained in an NMU-standardized uniform-provided hat, including bangs secured off the face, with no “fly-aways” exposed.
    ii. Front-of-house positions require hair longer than shoulder length to be securely tied back, ensuring no contact with service trays or the need for the student to touch their hair continuously.
5. Facial hair is not to exceed ⅛” in length, or a beard net is required.
6. Aprons must be worn while in the kitchen and removed whenever a student leaves the kitchen.
7. If students leave the kitchen space, they must wash their hands upon reentering the lab space.
8. Nails must be trimmed to finger length and kept clean.
9. No nail polish of any kind or false nails are permitted.

Jewelry Policy:

1. No facial jewelry, necklaces, earrings, bracelets, watches, or rings may be worn in any BOH lab.
1. FOH labs will be allowed modest jewelry or costumes with the instructor's preapproval to ensure the event's aesthetics.
2. Medical alert jewelry may be worn in the lab environment with the approval of the instructor.

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Uniform Enforcement Policy:

1. All students must wear the NMU-standardized uniform and practice proper personal hygiene and jewelry policy to participate in the lab or event setting.
2. For safety and sanitation reasons, students will not be permitted to participate in a lab environment if they do not meet NMU standardized uniform requirements and/or have poor personal hygiene.
3. Failure to comply will result in instructor instruction to exit the lab environment and return when the policy requirements are met.
4. No additional lab time will be given to students who are asked to leave to correct their uniforms.
5. Failure to comply will result in lab point deduction.
6. Repeated failure to comply could result in expulsion from the course.
7. The program has the right to update this policy as needed to enforce the health code and ensure consistency among the student body.

Student Acknowledgement of Understanding

The signing of this document acknowledges that you:

- Have had sufficient time to thoroughly review, consider, and ask questions about this policy.
- Have read and understand the terms of this policy and your obligations to uphold this policy.
- Are signing this agreement voluntarily and understand that by doing so, you agree to the policy terms as part of your educational journey.

_____
Printed Name

_____
Signature

_____
Date