

**Illinois Future Business Leaders of America  
Dress Code  
For Area, State, National Fall Leadership Conference, and National  
Leadership Conferences**

FBLA-PBL members and advisers should develop an awareness of the image one's appearance projects. The purpose of the dress code is to uphold the professional image of the association and its members and to prepare students for the business world. Appropriate attire is required for all attendees – advisers, members, and guests – at all general sessions, competitive events, workshops, and other activities unless otherwise stated in the conference program. Conference name badges are part of this dress code and must be worn for all conference functions. For safety reasons, do not wear name badges when off the conference property.

Professional attire acceptable for official FBLA-PBL activities includes:

**Males**

- ◆ Business suit with collar dress shirt, and necktie or
- ◆ Sport coat, dress slacks, collar shirt, and necktie or
- ◆ Dress slacks, collar shirt, and necktie
- ◆ Dress shoes and dress socks

**Females**

- ◆ Business suit or
- ◆ Business pantsuit (pants accompanied by a coordinated jacket) or
- ◆ Skirt or dress slacks with blouse or sweater or
- ◆ Business dress
- ◆ Capris or gauchos (worn below the knee) with coordinating jacket/suit
- ◆ Hemlines of skirts/dresses should be no more than one inch above the knee
- ◆ Dress shoes with no more than 2-inch heel

***CLARIFICATION***–*Sling-back shoes, open toe shoes, and sleeveless dresses are accepted.*

**Inappropriate attire, for both men and women, includes:**

- ◆ Jewelry in visible body piercing, other than ears
- ◆ Visible tattoos
  - ◆ Denim or chambray fabric clothing of any kind, overalls, shorts, skorts, cargo pants, stretch or yoga pants, exercise or bike shorts
  - ◆ Backless, see-through, tight-fitting, form-fitting, spaghetti straps, strapless, low-cut blouses/ tops/dresses, or tops not reaching the beltline. No skin should be visible at the mid-section and cleavage should not be showing.
  - ◆ T-shirts, polo shirts, Lycra™, spandex, midriff tops, tank tops, tube tops, bathing suits
  - ◆ Sperry's style, Bob's style, Tom's style, Croc's style, athletic shoes, industrial work shoes, hiking and cowboy boots, bare feet, or flip flops
  - ◆ Athletic wear, including sneakers
  - ◆ Hats/caps or flannel fabric clothing
  - ◆ Bolo ties
  - ◆ Visible foundation garments
- ◆ Sun dresses or leggings
- ◆ Boots for females
- ◆ Tie-Dye garments

New fashion trends may be in style but not necessarily appropriate. The best way to operate is to avoid walking the line. If there is a doubt, select something else to wear. Be a professional.

*Revised 11/2018*