



The intent of this policy is to promote a professional appearance of all of our students and instructional staff at EMSTA College. It is the goal of EMSTA College to promote an image to all the San Diego County Prehospital Agencies, Hospitals and staff as well as the citizens they serve, that EMSTA College is a professional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) training program.

### Uniform Standards

While attending class or field/clinical experience, students shall wear a proper and clean uniform. Students must comply with the school's uniform standards. This is a mandatory requirement.

#### *Student Uniform:*

- A school-supplied T-Shirt or Polo with EMSTA logo (*EMT*).
  - *Additional shirts may be purchased from the school.*
- A school-supplied Class B uniform shirt (*Paramedic*).
- Navy blue dress slacks or EMS pants with black leather belt.
- Black boots, black polished shoes or black tennis shoes (all with non-marking soles).
  - *“Flip-flops”, Clogs, excessively high heels and slippers are not acceptable.*

#### *Instructional Staff:*

- A school-supplied white Polo shirt (*Teaching Assistants*)
- A school-supplied collared button up dress shirt (*Primary Instructors*)
- Dress slacks and belt
- Professional footwear

### Grooming Standards

It is also the goal of EMSTA College to provide a set of grooming standards that takes the safety of all students and staff into consideration, as well as addressing a professional EMS image.

- All students must be neatly groomed with clean hair, nails and clothing.
- Students will avoid excessive use of cosmetics, perfume and cologne or after shave lotion.
- Hair should be well groomed and of a natural color. All students must have their hair secured off the face and base of their neck while in class.
- Face/Chin must be clean shaven at all times.
  - *Chin is defined as the center portion of the lower jaw beginning at the lower lip (no goatees)*
  - *Mustaches are allowed but must be kept neatly trimmed at all times*
- Hair must not rest on the collar of a Class “B” or Polo uniform shirt during any field/clinical experience. If hair must be secured (mechanically restrained) to meet these requirements, the device or method used to so restrain must not interfere with the safe and proper use of personal protection equipment (PPE). It must remain restrained under all conditions of work or activity on all field/clinical rotations.

- In no event shall the length of facial hair (sideburns or the style of moustache) preclude the proper wearing of personal protection equipment (i.e. N95/P-100).
- EMSTA College staff shall have the complete authority to cause the above standards to be met. The burden of proof, should a conflict arise, shall be on the student.
- Deviations may be permitted only when facial characteristics are unusual, making stated regulations impossible to administer or by special permission by the Program Director.

### **Appearance – *Tattoo, Scarification, Branding and Piercings***

Many factors influence the community's confidence in Emergency Personnel and in our training program. The image we present to the community must be one of professionalism. Our appearance is of utmost importance.

#### TATTOOS, SCARIFICATION, BRANDING

It is the **preference** of the College that should a student or instructional staff member have any tattoo, scarification, or branding, an attempt should be made to cover it/them by the approved uniform during all class meetings.

Any tattoo, scarification or branding shall NOT be visible while on field/clinical rotations or representing the College in any official capacity. Tattoos, scarifications or brandings must be covered with the school approved uniform, including, but not limited to, a long-sleeve shirt, jacket, sweater or turtleneck sweater.

The display of a tattoo, scarification or branding considered inappropriate, unprofessional or offensive, regardless of its location, by any staff member or student of the College, while in class, performing field/clinical experience or representing the College in any official capacity is strictly prohibited.

The following includes, but is not limited to, the types of tattoos, scarifications or brands prohibited by this policy:

- Depictions of nudity or violence.
- Sexually explicit or vulgar art, words, phrases or profane language.
- Symbols likely to incite a strong reaction in the workplace, i.e., swastikas, pentagrams or similar symbols.
- Initials, acronyms or numbers that represent criminal or historically oppressive organizations,
  - *i.e. AB, KKK, SS, MM, BFG, HA, MS13, 666 or any street gang names, numbers and/or symbols.*

#### PIERCINGS / JEWELRY

The following standards for piercing and jewelry are in place for student safety. Students, during skills lab and/or field/clinical experience, may suffer injuries to pierced areas during skills practice labs or patient encounters (i.e. combative/alterated patients). These standards are also in place to aid in the professional appearance the community expects from EMS personnel.

- Conservative jewelry is permitted.
- Studded earrings only. The earrings shall be plain and no more than ¼" in diameter.
  - *Hanging, hoops or "plug" earrings are strictly prohibited.*
  - *Earrings may only be worn in the earlobes.*
- While performing any field/clinical experience, all uniformed students, may only wear one set of stud-type earrings with only one earring per ear.
- The piercing and wearing of associated jewelry in all other visible parts of the body is strictly prohibited.