

USAFA Dress & Appearance Standards

August 2025



I. Uniform Requirements

SS/LS Blues

- **Gig Line:** Shirt placket, belt buckle edge, and fly must be aligned.
- **Nametag:** Centered on the wearer's right; within 1½ inches above or below the first exposed button.
- **Ties:** When worn, a tie clasp or tack must also be worn.
- **Shoes:**
 - Low quarters only; combat boots are unauthorized.
 - Oxford-style, lace-up with plain rounded toe.
 - Sole thickness ≤ ½ inch; heel height ≤ 1 inch.
 - No buckles, bows, or straps.
- **Space Force:** Delta insignias authorized on blues and service dress.
- **Headgear:**
 - C1Cs: Berets authorized after wing-wide commandant approval.
 - Lower three classes: Flight caps; recognized cadets wear prop and wings pinned 1.5 inches from front edge.
- **Appearance:** Uniform will be ironed and free of cables or stains.

OCPs

- **Cleanliness:** Blouse and trousers will be free of cables or stains.
- **Boots:** Coyote brown; height 8–12 inches from heel tread to top; sole ≤ 2 inches.
- **Space Force:**
 - C1Cs: May wear Space Force name tapes and ranks.
 - All other patches must be subdued.
- **Headgear:**
 - Will not protrude from pockets.
 - C1Cs: Berets authorized after wing-wide commandant approval.

PT Gear

- **Sweatshirt:** Only the issued gray “marshmallow” top may be worn under the PT jacket.
- **Fit:** Shirts tucked in; pants zipped at all times when not actively exercising.

II. Grooming Standards

Hair – Male

- Low taper fade is unauthorized.
- Maximum bulk: 1.5 inches. Maximum length: 0.25 inches.
- Hair may not touch ears or extend under headgear band.
- One straight part allowed (max 4 inches length, 0.25 inches width).
- Shaving waiver: Beards trimmed daily to \leq 0.25 inches; medical waivers renewed every 60 days.
- No eccentric flows, twists, or spiking.
- Dyes/tints/bleaches must result in natural hair colors.

Hair – Female

- Hair radius when pulled back will not exceed 6 inches.
- Dyes/tints/bleaches must result in natural hair colors.
- Pulled-back hair will not extend more than 4.5 inches below the top of the collar.
- Braids/ponytails are not worn in service dress or parade uniform.
- Length restrictions for pulled-back hair do not apply in PT gear.
- Hair accessories must be black or match hair color.

Fingernails

- Length: Max 0.25 inches past fingertip; clean and well-groomed.
- Men: Nail polish unauthorized.
- Women: Clear polish, French, or American manicure authorized (no designs/ombre).

Cosmetics

- Men: Cosmetics unauthorized.
- Women: Styled cosmetics permitted; false eyelashes and winged eyeliner unauthorized.

III. Jewelry

Earrings

- Men: Not authorized in uniform; permitted in civilian attire at non-military affiliated events.
- Women: Round or square earrings \leq 6mm diameter; white diamond, gold, white pearl, or silver.
- Multiple piercings: Only the lowest earlobe may be worn with earrings.
- Clear spacers authorized for men and women in earlobes only.

Bracelets

- One bracelet authorized; black, gold, or silver; \leq $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide.
- Gemstone/tennis bracelets worn only in mess dress.
- Traditional metal POW/KIA/MIA bracelets authorized.

Watches

- Authorized colors: black, brown, silver, or gold.
- Band width \leq 1 inch.
- Color/band width restrictions do not apply in PT gear.

Rings

- Maximum of three rings total; may be worn on thumb.

Necklaces

- Not visible at any time.

IV. Other Notable Changes

Eyewear

- Frames: Only black, gold, or silver wire.
- Sunglasses: Black frames with black lenses; mirrored lenses unauthorized.

Headphone & Cell Phone Usage

- Headphones: Unauthorized in uniform unless stationary or actively working out.
- Cell phones: May not be used while walking; only authorized while stationary or in emergencies.

Additional

- Cadets will not place hands in pockets.