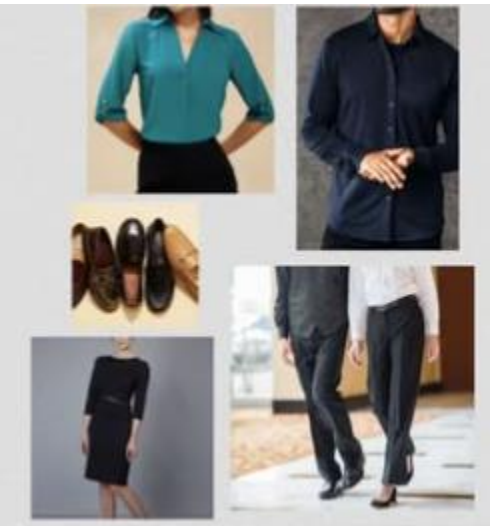
WHAT TO WEAR TO A CAREER FAIR



Dress Conservatively

Even if you are applying for jobs at tech companies or landscape engineering firms that are known for more casual dress codes, it is wise to dress conservatively. It's always better to be a little over-dressed than under-dressed.

Neutral Colors Appear More Professional

Chose neutral colors for your skirt, pants, or jacket. Neutral colors like blue, black, gray, or tan look more professional than bright colors like pink, red, and yellow. Pair these with a natural beige, white, or ivory shirt or top. Save brighter colors for tie accenting or jewelry.

Professional Attire for Men

You do not necessarily need a suit. A clean, well-cut jacket with gray, navy, or black pants is plenty. Wear a light-colored shirt or oxford. Look for a shirt with a pattern. Even though the pattern is hard to see, it acts as a camouflage for lint or pet hair. If you spill coffee and it leaves an outlining stain, the pattern will make it harder to see.

Wear a conservatively-colored tie. If you have never tied a tie before YouTube has you covered. A little color is okay, but avoid too much flash. Avoid any type of pattern that might be controversial or distracting.

Wear a belt and polished dress shoes.

Professional Attire for Women

Women have more options than men, but the guideline to stay conservative is still key. A business suit with pants or skirt is always appropriate, but a dress or skirt and blouse are sufficient in most situations.

If you wear a skirt, do not wear it too short. A hemline just above or below the knee is best. Avoid a brightly patterned skirt or dress. Instead, lean toward black, blue, or gray with subdued patterns.

Wear a blouse with a simple pattern. Following the advice for men above, a pattern or mix of colors is a good way to hide the small stains that might result from spilled beverages or crumbs.

Wear boots or pumps with heels less than 3 inches. Do not wear flip-flop, sandals, or flimsy shoes. Definitely avoid any shoes that make it difficult to walk.

For jewelry, go for a clean, classic look. Small earrings and a wristwatch are fine. Don't overdress with rings, bracelets, and necklaces. Clunky jewelry can be distracting and even loud.

One Last Thing

Make sure you take some time to try everything on. Too often students show up to career fairs in ill-fitting clothes. Trying things on a few days before you attend a career fair will give you enough time to make any necessary adjustments.