

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

UNIFORM DRESS CODE

ALA students must wear school uniforms that meet the requirements of the uniform dress code below when attending school and extracurricular activities. The uniform dress code is intended to reduce distraction and instill a sense of unity and discipline within the school community. The standards below are meant to help students dress in a manner that reflects the expectations of the professional and business community, while, at the same time, ensuring safety during school activities. Requests for exceptions based on religious or medical needs must be submitted to the school principal within the first two weeks of enrollment.

POLOS/SHIRTS

- Polos must be a solid color navy blue, white, red or gray, short or long-sleeved. Maroon and similar shades of red are not permitted. Black polos are not permitted. This polo must be purchased through an ALA approved vendor.
- Shirts must have an embroidered/approved screen-print ALA logo. Embroidery must be done by the approved vendor.
- Non-ALA logos such as a Nike swoosh or Polo emblem are permissible provided such logos are no greater than approximately three inches.
- Undershirts must be solid, red, black, gray, white or navy blue and free of any print, design or competing logos.
- Girls' polos may be worn untucked; however, any undershirts must be tucked in.
- Shirts must hang below the natural waistline when arms are raised above the head-no skin showing.
- Boys' shirts must be tucked in.
- Chest and shoulders must be covered.
- No sheer or see-through material.
- Shirts may not be worn over polos.

PANTS

- Uniform style pants must be khaki, tan, black, gray, white or navy blue in color (NO cargo pants).
- All boys' pants must have belt loops, and boys must wear belts.
- Pants must be worn at the natural waist.
- Tight pants such as leggings, yoga pants, or sweatpants are not allowed.
- Joggers are allowed as long as they are twill (khaki/Docker style material) and not sweat pants style. Joggers can be worn with a drawstring in lieu of a belt.
- No blue jeans allowed except on Friday. See Friday Dress Code section.
- Pants must not be faded, have holes, or frays.
- Solid school colored leggings are permitted for girls to wear under appropriate length skirts or dresses.

DRESSES/JUMPERS (GIRLS)

- Uniform style dresses/jumpers are permitted for girls as long as they are solid colored; navy, light gray, white, red or khaki.
- Denim dresses/jumpers are not permitted.
- Dresses/jumpers must be knee-length.
- Dresses/jumpers must have a collar or be worn with a dress code-appropriate shirt underneath.
- Dresses/jumpers must have an embroidered/approved screen-print ALA logo.

SKIRTS/SKORTS (GIRLS) SHORTS (GIRLS & BOYS)

- Uniform style skirts/skorts/shorts must be solid colored; navy blue, or khaki.
- Skirts/skorts/shorts must be knee-length.
- Athletic style shorts are not allowed as part of the classroom dress code.
- Approved athletic shorts may be worn for PE.
- Denim, fleece, and/or athletic shorts are prohibited.
- Denim, fleece, and/or athletic skirts/skorts are prohibited.
- Note, shorts, skirts, and skorts purchased through an approved ALA vendor may not meet the length requirement for all body types.

BELTS

- Must be conservative, solid color; black, brown, red, white, navy blue or neutral.
- No metal trim or studs are allowed.
- Belts must be worn by boys.
- Belts are optional for girls.
- Belts are optional for grades K-2.

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SOCKS/SHOES

- Students may wear non-distracting athletic, casual, or dress shoes (no lights or charms).
- Shoes with wheels are strictly prohibited.
- Shoes must have closed toes and heels.
- No Keens, Crocs, Moccasins, Birkenstocks, flip-flops, slippers, house slippers (i.e. Dearfoams), or dance footwear are prohibited unless otherwise specified by the school for an appropriate activity).
- Girls are allowed to wear open-toed sandals as long as they have a heel strap. Heels or soles may be no higher than 2 inches.
- Open-toed sandals are NOT allowed for PE use.
- Athletic shoes are required for P.E.
- Appropriate footwear may be worn when weather conditions permit (i.e. rain boots, snow boots, etc.).
- Socks must be white, navy blue, gray, black, or khaki solid colors only.
- Girls may choose to wear solid-colored, knee-high socks in white, navy, or khaki. White, navy or khaki non-patterned leggings or tights may be worn under a uniform skirt or skort. Fishnet stockings or other inappropriate legwear is not acceptable.

JEWELRY

- Jewelry must be conservative, modest, and not a distraction.
- Girls may wear one pair of earrings, in the earlobe, no larger than a quarter.
- No gauge earrings, nose rings, lip piercing, etc. are allowed.
- Earrings may need to be removed during PE for safety.
- Boys may not wear earrings.
- Visible body piercing jewelry (plugs, etc.) are not permitted.
- Wallet chains or similar items are prohibited.
- Chokers or chains around the neck are prohibited.
- Sunglasses may not be worn inside school buildings.
- Holiday or festive decoration jewelry (blinking necklaces) are not allowed.

COSMETICS

- Makeup should be natural looking and not disruptive to the educational environment.
- Visible tattoos (permanent or temporary) must be covered.
- Students are prohibited from writing or drawing on their skin.
- Boys are prohibited from wearing makeup, painted fingernails, or long fingernails.

OUTERWEAR

- Outerwear refers to all coats, jackets, sweatshirts, cardigans, hoodies, and sweaters, etc. worn inside school buildings.
- Outerwear must be solid colored black, red, white, gray, or navy blue with an embroidered/approved screen-print ALA logo.
- Students wearing hoodies must keep hoods down and hoodies must be turned right side out when on campus.
- Non-ALA logos such as a Nike swoosh or Polo emblem are permissible provided such logos are no greater than approximately three inches.
- Students must wear ALA logoed collared button-up or polo shirts underneath outerwear (Except on Fridays).
- Denim outerwear is prohibited.
- Weather-related outerwear must be distraction-free, a solid color, and must be removed once indoors (i.e. rain coats/jackets, snow coats/jackets, etc.).

HAIR

- Hair must be kept neat, clean, and have a combed appearance.
- Girls may wear bows, headbands, or hair tie backs, but must not be distracting.
- Extreme hair designs and hair colors that interfere with or become a distraction to the learning environment are not permitted. Only natural hair colors are permitted.
- Boys' hair cannot be longer than the top of the collar and must be off the ears. Hair length in front should not fall below the eyebrows or otherwise interfere with or obstruct student vision.
- Boys cannot wear manbuns, ponytails, or pinned up so their hair is "off the collar and off the ear."
- Boys must be clean shaven. Sideburns can be no longer than the middle of the ear.
- ALA does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color or national origin in its administration of this hair grooming standard.
- Exceptions to this hair grooming standard may be granted for medical necessity, religious or cultural beliefs, provided that justification is submitted to and approved by campus administration within 2 weeks of enrollment.

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HEAD COVERINGS & HATS

- No hats or bandanas may be worn inside the school buildings.
- Sweatshirt hoods or hoods from other garments may not be worn inside the school buildings.
- Holiday and festive apparel such as hats and headbands are not allowed.
- Head coverings of a religious or cultural nature (e.g. yarmulke/kippah, hijab, etc.) or for medical necessity are permitted provided that justification is submitted to and approved by the campus administration within 2 weeks of enrollment.

FRIDAY DRESS CODE

- On Fridays, students may wear Friday T-shirts that are sold by ALA's approved vendor.
- University-branded polos and T-shirts or military branch shirts are approved for wear on Fridays. Shirts must meet all other ALA dress standards (no camo, no holes, not distracting, etc.).
- Friday shirts may only be worn on Fridays.
- Students may wear clean and neat, blue or black jeans with an official ALA approved T-shirt or any ALA approved uniform top.
- Jeggings, jeans with holes, skinny/skin tight jeans, and bling jeans are prohibited.
- Denim shorts are approved but they must be knee-length.
- Denim shorts may not be faded or have holes.

DRESS DOWN DAY(S)/SPIRIT DAY(S)

From time to time, students may be allowed to have a dress down day or a spirit dress day (e.g., themed dress day). In general, students must present a clean, modest, and neat appearance. Clothing must be worn right side out, be of appropriate size and worn correctly. On themed dress days, students must either dress in the designated theme or be in standard ALA uniform dress code. In all cases, administration reserves the right to determine whether a student is complying with the ALA dress code. Guidelines for dress down days will be distributed by campus administration.

SPECIAL EVENT(S)/DANCES

Throughout the year, events may occur that warrant special dress up days. Departures from standard school dress code may be approved by administration in these instances. Below, find examples of appropriate dress for these occasions (Please note that these items constitute guidelines and not a comprehensive code. Further instructions and/or restrictions may be given by Administration relevant to the particular event.)

- Dress-up attire for girls consists of a conservative and modest blouse/skirt/pants or dress. All skirts and dresses must be knee length or longer and may not be tight or revealing in any way. Midriffs must be covered, and blouses may not be low-cut. Shrugs or shawls do not change the required design of the dress.
- Dress-up attire for boys consists of long-sleeve, button-up, collared dress-shirt with a conservative tie, and dress slacks with a belt.

Note: Dress-up days are not required. As such, if a student does not have proper attire to "dress-up" no undue burden is placed on them to purchase dress-up compliant attire. Standard ALA dress-code is acceptable. Likewise, dress-up days are a privilege, not a right. If student(s) are not appropriately dressed, they will be denied admittance to the event.