Individual dress and grooming will be considered permissible if it is not disruptive to the educational process, does not constitute a threat to the safety and health of self or others, and is not in violation of an applicable state law, statute, or ordinance. (For example, Louisiana law does not allow someone under 18 to receive a piercing or tattoo without parental permission.)

Examples of student dress which have the potential to disrupt the educational process or residential environment include: inappropriate clothing such as see-through apparel, bare midriffs, and short-shorts or short skirts; clothing containing any messages or decorations which are profane, lewd, pornographic, inappropriately suggestive, or which may serve to create a disturbance or distraction among the community; clothing containing any messages or decorations which promote (or suggest/encourage the use of) substances such as alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs; visible underwear or garments resembling underwear.

Hair should be groomed appropriately and may not be dyed in unconventional colors. Hats, house shoes, and pajamas may not be worn in academic buildings. These items may be worn in areas of the residence hall, as determined by the residential life staff member on duty. All faculty and staff members have the right to declare a student's attire inappropriate and may require a student to return to his/her room to change, even if this results in an unexcused absence from a class or required event.

Additionally, the dress code seeks to help students understand the importance of professional dress and grooming. For certain school events, students will be required to wear professional or formal dress. Students selected for the school's Ambassador program will accept dress standards when they are in service. Students representing LSMSA off-campus will dress appropriately as determined and explained to participants by sponsors of the event. In all such instances, guidelines are provided in advance and students must comply with these dress and grooming requirements.

- ***Violations of the policies regarding dress and grooming generally are considered MINOR INFRACTIONS.***