



Professional  
**ATTIRE**  
Guidelines

IIT CAREER FAIR  
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

## WHAT TO WEAR

## WHAT NOT TO WEAR

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| <b>A fitted blazer in a solid, neutral color (black, navy, gray, brown, deep earth tones). Steamed/pressed.</b>  | <b>Ill-fitting clothes: too tight, too big/baggy, too short, too long, too low cut. Neon, distracting colors – even as suits – are a no.</b>  |
| <b>Trousers that fall to the top of your shoes, ideally in a color/material that match your blazer. Ironed.</b>  | <b>Jeans or leggings.</b>   |
| <b>Skirt or dress that falls to the middle of or just under your knees, also ideally in a color/material that matches your blazer. Ironed.</b>   | <b>Sundresses or miniskirts.</b>  |
| <b>A button down shirt either in a solid color or a simple pattern.</b>  | <b>Anything sleeveless (unless it is a dress shirt under a blazer) or strapless.</b>  |
| <b>If wearing a tie, it should be a solid color or a simple pattern that does not clash with the shirt. The shirt should be buttoned to the top.</b>   | <b>Your grandpa's hand-me-down very wide tie that's covered in different types of fish.</b>   |
| <b>If wearing a female-fitted button down shirt, be sure it buttons properly without gaps and is not too low cut (wear a matching camisole or undershirt if needed).</b>                                   | <b>Lots of big jewelry that hangs low and jingles anytime you move around or clanks together distractingly.</b>   |
| <b>Solid-color (black or brown, depending on the suit/ clothes), close-toed shoes – polished and clean. Can be flats or heels (3" or shorter). Be sure you are able to walk naturally and comfortably.</b> | <b>Sandals, sneakers, flip flops, strappy 5" heels .</b>  |
| <b>Socks (if wearing trousers) that cover your ankle and match your shoe color. Socks are a must.</b>  | <b>Your Valentine's Day-themed pink and red fuzzy socks.</b>  |
| <b>Clean hands and trimmed fingernails, with a clear or pale polish, if desired.</b>   | <b>3" acrylic nails with teal and orange stripes and polka dots.</b>  |
| <b>Fresh face – clean-shaven or at least trimmed and tidy facial hair (no 5 o'clock shadows) and/or simple makeup.</b>   | <b>Face paint from the carnival you attended the night before.</b>  |
| <b>Simple, subtle jewelry – a watch, a necklace, a bracelet, small earrings, etc. You can wear one statement piece if it's not distracting.</b>  | <b>Facial piercings that are not the ears (nose, eyebrow, lip, etc.) should be taken out for interviews, but may be discussed with prospective employer(s) later in the hiring process.</b> |
| <b>Good hygiene! Clean, fresh scent and fresh breath (no gum).</b>   | <b>Overpowering cologne or perfume or the scent of a cigarette.</b>   |
| <b>Clean, dry hair. Headwear is only appropriate if it is worn for cultural or religious reasons.</b>  | <b>That tattered old baseball hat you've been wearing all summer, or the new fedora you've been trying out.</b>   |
| <b>Professional attire that you feel comfortable and confident in!</b>   | <b>Your favorite sweatshirt and sweatpants that you feel comfortable in.</b>  |