

Student Dress Code

El Camino Real Academy (ECRA) respects students' rights to express themselves in the way they dress. All students who attend ECRA are also expected to respect the school community by dressing appropriately for a K-12 educational environment. Student attire should facilitate participation in learning as well as the health and safety of students and the adults that supervise them. This procedure is intended to provide guidance for students, staff, and parents. *Administration reserves the right to determine what constitutes appropriate dress.*

Procedures:

1. Allowed: **Minimum Requirements:**

- a. Clothing that covers areas from one armpit across to the other armpit, and must reach 3 inches above the knee cap or longer
- b. All colors including, prints, checks, stripes, and plaids
- c. Shirts with or without collars
- d. Tops with sleeves
- e. Shoes must be worn at all times and should be safe for the school environment (closed toe)

2. Not allowed:

- a. Clothing with rips or tears
- b. Pajamas (unless it is a sanctioned school function, i.e., pajama day)
- c. Spandex Garments
- d. Bedroom shoes or slippers
- e. See-through or mesh garments (unless worn as outerwear and appropriate coverage underneath still meet the minimum requirements of the dress code).
- f. Tube tops, shirts without straps
- g. Exposed underwear (boxers, bras, etc)
- h. Dresses, skirts, shorts, and skorts, including slits, should not be above mid-thigh (when sitting).
- i. Visible cleavage, navels, and/or midriffs. No skin should be shown between the bottom of the shirt/blouse and the top of the pants/skirt
- j. Heely's

3. Other provisions:

- a. Apparel and accessories may not depict, imply, advertise, or advocate:
 - i. Illegal, violence, weapons, or lewd images, or the use of alcohol, drugs, or other controlled substances.
 - ii. vulgar, discriminatory, hate speech/imagery targeting protected classification, or obscene language or images.

- iii. mustn't display words or symbols or colors of gangs, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, violence, racism, inappropriate language or images, or symbols of a sexual/sexist nature
- b. Hats, sunglasses, or other garments that obstruct the visibility of the face may not be worn inside buildings.
- c. Apparel and accessories that endanger student or staff safety may not be worn.
- d. Apparel, accessories, tattoos, or manner of grooming that, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark or any other attribute, denotes membership in a gang that advocates illegal or disruptive behavior is prohibited.

Consequences for Violation of the Student Dress Code/Standard of Decency

First offense: Students who violate the Dress Code will be marked on the Dress Code referral tracker and will be required to:

- i.
 - a. Call home and ask for a change of clothing, or
 - b. change into clothing provided by the school

Second offense: Students who violate the Dress Code will be marked on the Dress Code referral tracker and will be required to:

- ii.
 - a. Call home and ask for a change of clothing, or
 - b. change into clothing provided by the school
- iii. Complete community service during one lunch detention.

Third and subsequent offenses: Students will continue to face disciplinary consequences, which may include penalties up to out-of-school suspension.

Waivers

Waivers may be granted by the principal or site administrator subject to the following criteria:

- a. Religious Freedom: Families whose religious beliefs require wearing attire that does not conform to the dress code and whose membership or affiliation with that denomination or sect can be verified
- b. Health or Physical Disability - a health or disability issue documented by a medical professional or through an IEP which would preclude the student from being able to wear regular clothes to school for a specified period of time
- c. Financial Hardship – families who for a period of time meet one of the following criteria and who can document this situation:
 - iv. Homelessness,
 - v. head of family is unemployed or on disability
 - vi. families with children who receive general public assistance or some other form of documented financial aid.

- vii. The portions of the Dress Code pertaining to the display of words or symbols or colors of gangs, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, violence, racism, inappropriate language or images, or symbols of a sexual/sexist nature, are not subject to waiver. All students will be expected to comply with these provisions listed in the additional requirements.

Application Process for Waivers

Parents of students who qualify for a waiver must fill out a waiver request form at the student's school site during the two weeks prior to the opening of school.

Parents of students new to the school must apply for a waiver within two weeks of the date of the student's enrollment. During the two-week period students must meet the school's dress code expectations.

Parents requesting temporary waivers for health reasons must apply for a waiver at the student's school site prior to the student's return to school.

Appeal of denial of waiver

The decision of the principal or school site administrator may be appealed to the Executive Director or designee whose decision shall be final. Any parent requesting review by the Executive Director must submit a request in writing to the Office of the Executive Director within three (3) working days of the principal or administrators' denial. The Executive Director shall issue a final determination within three (3) working days of receipt of the request for review.

Annual policy review

This policy may be subject to annual evaluation and review in a manner to be determined by the school administration and ECRA Governing Council.