

**Texas FFA Association  
Official Dress Standards  
9/9/2013**

### **Female Official Dress**

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- Black skirt. (No denim, jeans - blue or black, leather, pleather, etc.)  
*Skirt is to be at least knee length, hemmed evenly across the bottom, with a slit no longer than 2 inches above the knee, excluding the kick pleat. Black slacks may be appropriate only for traveling and outdoor activities, but not for official participation.*
- White collared blouse and official FFA blue scarf.
- Black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe (No boots, sandals, open-toed shoes, or tennis shoes. Shoes must not have sequins, sparkles or any other accessories.)
- Black nylon hosiery.
- Official FFA jacket zipped to the top.

### **Male Official Dress**

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- Black dress pants. (No jeans - blue or black, leather, pleather, etc.)
- White dress shirt and official FFA tie. The FFA bowtie is NOT acceptable for Texas official dress.
- Black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe. (No sandals, open-toed shoes, tennis shoes.) Dress boots are acceptable for official dress in Texas, but not for national participation.
- Black socks. (Applicable to visible socks only.)
- Official FFA jacket zipped to the top. The collar should be turned down and the cuffs buttoned.

### **How to Wear Awards**

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- Chapter degree, officer and award medals should be worn beneath the name on the right side of the jacket.
- State FFA Degree or American Degree keys should be worn above the name on the right side of the jacket or attached to a standard key chain.
- No more than three medals should be worn on the jacket. These should represent highest degree earned, highest office held and the highest award earned.

### **Proper Use of the FFA Jacket**

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1. The jacket is to be worn only by members.
2. The jacket should be kept clean and neat.
3. The back of the jacket should have only a large official FFA emblem, the name of the state and the name of the local chapter, region, district or area. The front of the jacket should have only a small official FFA emblem, the name of the individual, one office or honor and the year of that office or honor.
4. The jacket should be worn on official occasions with the zipper fastened to the top. The collar should be turned down and the cuffs buttoned.
5. The jacket should be worn by members and officers on all official FFA occasions, as well as other occasions where the chapter or state association is represented. It may be worn to school and other appropriate places.
6. The jacket should only be worn to places that are appropriate for members to visit.
7. School letters and insignia of other organizations should not be attached to or worn on the jacket.
8. When the jacket becomes faded and worn, it should be discarded or the emblems and lettering removed.
9. The emblems and lettering should be removed if the jacket is given or sold to a non-member.
10. A member should act professionally when wearing the FFA jacket.
11. Members should refrain from use of tobacco and alcohol when underage at all times when representing the FFA. In addition, members should exhibit their leadership qualities when they encounter substances including tobacco and alcohol and serve to discourage others from inappropriate behavior.

## The Bowtie Debate

### Pro

1. It is considered to be appropriate business formal dress by fashion industry professionals. Note current Commissioner of Education Michael Williams at the Texas FFA Convention.



2. It originated in Texas. Alvin FFA member Andrew Stanton possesses the first bowtie ever made by FFA, because it was his idea. Texas FFA owns the second bowtie produced.
3. While it is not recognized as official dress by the National FFA Organization, states have adopted variations from the national standards. Texas allows boots. California refuses to adopt the black nylon hoses and opts, instead, for nude nylons.

### Con

1. It is not recognized by the National FFA Organization as official dress. The official dress standards online are silent on the issue, but the FFA catalogue states that the bowtie is not official dress.
2. Requiring all members to wear the same tie promote uniformity and unity.
3. A 2012 student committee of area officers suggested that Texas should follow national standards in regard to the bowtie.