

DRESS FOR SUCCESS*

When selecting...

Suits

- Choose solid colors, muted plaids or subtle accent stripes
- In general, wear knee or calf-length skirts

Shirts

- Choose brighter colors and minimal patterns to accentuate suit
- Always wash/iron or professionally launder

Ties & Belts

- Choose solids or minimal patterns that best match the suit and shoes
- Tip of tie should barely touch belt buckle

Shoes

- Wear what is comfortable and break them in before the interview!
- Solid colored shoes to match/coordinate with suit are best
- Should be closed heel/toe and 3 inches or shorter
- Wear matching, dark, mid-calf or higher socks with pants and nylons/tights with skirts

Jewelry

- Wear in moderation (it shouldn't distract from you!)
- Simple necklace, stud earrings, ring, and leather or metal band watch (at most) is appropriate

Accessories

- Invest in a quality pen, briefcase, portfolio, and wallet

Grooming

- If possible, put hair in comfortable position off the face so you're not adjusting during the interview
- Clipped and well-manicured fingernails (clear or nude polish if polished)
- Don't wear strong perfume/cologne/lotion

Overall

- Neatness always counts; it shows professionalism and attention to detail!
- Go for professionalism, not glamour
- When you're not sure how to dress, be conservative and dress in business professional

What is business casual?

No across-the-board definition, but typically defined as

- Dark jeans (with no holes) only...otherwise, khakis, dress pants or skirts/dresses, or similar
- No shirts with writing/pictures
- No athletic wear (yoga pants, casual shorts, Crocs, sneakers, sweats, etc.)
- No visible bra straps, stomachs, backs, or cleavage
- Other hygiene and laundry rules from above still apply

* For Chemical Sciences employers specifically...for other industry types, please visit Career Services