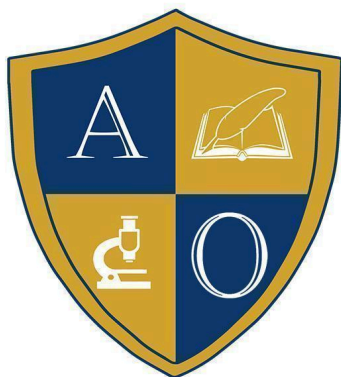




THE ACADEMIES OF OKLAHOMA

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Uniform Dress Code

The Academies of Oklahoma Board of Education (TAO) requires the wearing of student uniforms for all schools within the District to promote and to maintain an orderly and safe learning environment, to eliminate distractions while at school to increase the focus on instruction, to minimize socio-economic differences so that all students are treated equally, and to encourage and to promote professional and responsible dress for all students. In recognition of the right of students to express themselves in the manner of dress, students have the right to choose their own grooming and clothing styles subject to the requirements of this policy.

Generally, students should regard neatness and cleanliness in grooming and clothing as important. Dress or grooming that is in any way disruptive to the operation of the school will not be permitted.

The principal, in conjunction with sponsors, coaches, or other persons in charge of extracurricular activities, may regulate dress and grooming of students who participate in a particular activity if the director reasonably believes that the student's dress or grooming creates a hazard, or may prevent, interfere with, or adversely affect the purpose, direction, or effort required for the activity to achieve its goals. The principal may designate days for students to wear particular attire in recognition of school-wide events such as Spirit Days, etc. and may provide for days when the student uniform shall not apply.

No student shall be denied attendance at school or be otherwise penalized for failing to wear clothing that complies with the school uniform **if such failure is due to financial hardship**. *Any student who may not be able to comply with the school's uniform requirements should advise the Head of School that obtaining the required uniform will present a financial burden.* Assistance will be provided in these cases.

Students who violate this policy may be subject to discipline in accordance with the District's Student Code of Conduct. Students enrolling in TAO for the first time during the school year shall be granted a **grace period up to ten (10) school days before being required to comply with the required uniform**.

UNIFORM VENDOR/ORDERS

All TAO uniforms shall be ordered through our vendor- **Information coming soon.**

The following guidelines apply to all students while in attendance at school or school-sponsored events:

- Clothing worn to school shall not be torn, cut-up, or slit and must be appropriately sized for the student.
- Students shall not wear any clothing (including outerwear), jewelry, accessories, or display tattoos that contain messages or images that are obscene, vulgar, or related to tobacco, drugs, alcohol, sex, and/or violence.
- The TAO logo top **must always** be worn and visible during school hours. If outerwear that is non TAO (jackets, coats, sweaters, zip ups) are worn they must be removed or unzipped as to show the TAO uniform top.
- Ties and scarves may be worn but must be school colors.
- No **hats/caps** allowed on campus at **any time** unless approved by the Head of School.

Pants/Slacks/Skirts/Shorts/Skorts:

- TAO has approved pants, slacks, skirts, shorts, and skorts, in **blue, grey, black, and khaki**. As long as a student has similar pants, slacks, skirts, shorts, and skorts from another place (e.g. same style and colors) they can wear those clothes. **NO ATHLETIC SHORTS**
- Pants, slacks, skirts, shorts, and skorts shall be appropriately fastened at the waist. No sagging or “low rise” clothing is allowed.
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- Leggings may be worn **only** as an accessory under skirts, or skorts that meet uniform requirements and may only be white, black, or blue.
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- Hemlines must be of modest length defined as At a minimum, shorts/skirts must NOT be shorter than 2” from the knee (a dollar bill horizontal from knee cap to hem of the shorts or skirt).
- Denim must be clean, no rips, cuts, tears, or slits, and must be worn with a TAO approved top or t-shirt. T-shirts purchased from boutiques, vendors etc. are NOT approved uniforms.
- No athletic pants/shorts, sweats, joggers (silky, terry cloth, fuzzy, pajama pants etc). The only joggers allowed are cotton/Khaki/denim uniform pant material purchased from our vendor.
- Shirts: TAO has approved shirts in **gray, blue, and white** with a TAOO logo. Shirts must be collared and purchased through the school and display the crest on them.
- Uniformed T-shirts purchased from our vendor, or class-sponsored sale, may be worn daily in place of uniformed collared tops. T-shirts purchased from boutiques or created by oneself or someone else are NOT acceptable.

- Solid colors of white, black, gray, or blue long sleeves may be worn under the TAO logo shirts when needed.
- No midriff may be showing, no exceptions..
- Shirts/blouses must be appropriately buttoned or zipped.
- **Hoodies: Hoodies have been discontinued from our approved uniform border sheet due to students wearing the hood in classrooms. If a student still has a TAO, he/she may wear it until they have been caught wearing the hood over his/her head.** Only TAO uniform-approved hoodies are allowed in the classroom/building. During cold weather, students **MAY** wear jackets, hoodies, coats that **do not** have the TAO logo. However, the student **must** take the outerwear off in classrooms, cafeterias, and buildings. A student may continue to wear outerwear in the classroom, cafeteria, and buildings if it is approved by the TAO logo. A sweatshirt is offered in place of the hoodie on the order form.

FOOTWEAR - Students shall wear shoes and/or footwear at all times while on school property. Shoes with laces must be tied for safety.

- Students shall not wear flip-flops, beach, pool wear, shoes, or house shoes. Crocs are allowed with the strap on the back of the foot at all times. High heels and wedges are not recommended. Use caution in the gravel areas if you choose to wear heels or wedges.

Coats/Jackets/Sweaters

TAOO has approved sweatshirts (both zippered and pullover) in gray, blue, and white with TAOO designs. Students are **NOT** allowed to wear any outerwear in the building besides the approved TAOO outerwear. No hoodies allowed except TAOO logo hoodies (winter outerwear is defined as coats, not hoodies)

- Spartans athletic apparel must be approved by TAOO administration and worn on the campus.

Hats/Jewelry/Accessories:

- Students may not wear caps, hats, or head coverings of any kind, including but not limited to scarves, bandanas, and sweat bands, on campus except for students with religious beliefs requiring a head covering, for medical reasons, or as approved by the school's administration for a special school activity.
- Jewelry and accessories that pose a safety concern for the student or others are prohibited.
- If a student wears a belt, the belt must be a solid color, worn in the belt loops of the clothing, and appropriately fastened with a plain belt buckle.

Athletic Dress:

No underwear garments (including bras) may be shown at any time. Athletic shorts must be in compliance with the dress code policy. Jerseys can only be worn during school hours on game days. Students traveling with the team must be in uniform.

"FREE DRESS DAY"

Periodically during the school year, the students will be allowed to deviate from the uniform guidelines and wear their regular clothes. The Head of School and the faculty will determine the dates of these "free clothes days." If there is a question as to the appropriate nature of a student's attire, the Head of School will determine if the student needs to call his or her parents/guardians for a change of clothes. No gang attire will be tolerated.