TENNESSEE STATE 4-H CONGRESS Dress Code

Knowing what to wear for 4-H Congress can be a challenge ... especially if this is your first time to the event. Keep in mind that you are representing your county as well as the 4-H program. Thus, it is better to be “over-dressed” than “under-dressed.” The most important and most basic guideline is that your general appearance should be neat and clean. To help you plan, the following dress code has been provided:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official Congress Dress</th>
<th>Casual</th>
<th>Semi-formal</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gentlemen</strong></td>
<td>Official 4-H Congress sweaters with a collared shirt (button-up). Ties are required. Dress slacks. Socks to match dress slacks. Black or brown dress shoes. NO athletic shoes, flip-flops or crock-type footwear.</td>
<td>Jeans, khakis, t-shirts, athletic shoes, flip-flops and crock-type footwear. NO cut-offs or worn jeans with holes.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ladies</strong></td>
<td>Official 4-H Congress sweaters with a collared shirt or turtle neck. Skirts or dress slacks. NOTE: All skirts must be no shorter than fingertip length; Dress shoes. NO athletic shoes; flip-flops or crock-type footwear.</td>
<td>Jeans, khakis, t-shirts, athletic shoes, flip-flops and crock-type footwear. Shorts are permitted, but must be no shorter than fingertip length. NO cut-offs or worn jeans with holes.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Specific events in which this dress is appropriate
- Assemblies
- Know Your Government Meals
- Representative Meetings
- Project Competition
- Registration
- General Jackson Inaugural Ball
- Check-Out
- Citizenship Banquet

The following clothing items are not appropriate at 4-H Congress:

- Tube tops
- Halter tops
- One-shoulder tops
- Strapless tops
- Casual tops with spaghetti straps
- Camisoles
- Clothing that exposes the midriff, navel, back or cleavage.
- See-through clothing
- Muscle shirts
- Clothing that advertises alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or drugs
- Clothing that has vulgar, obscene or offensive messages or images
- Pajamas/sleepwear or outfits with visible undergarments are not to be worn outside of your room
- Cut-offs, ripped jeans or other clothing with holes
- Bare feet are not appropriate for any Congress activity
- Dress and appearance should not present health or safety hazards or cause disruption
- No hats are to be worn of any kind (This pertains to both ladies and gentlemen)

For security purposes, neckwallets are to worn AROUND THE NECK at all times. However, they may be carried in a pocket or purse to the Citizenship Banquet and Inaugural Ball.

Tennessee state 4-H staff, Extension personnel and adult volunteer leaders may ask any individual to modify their clothing selection if the Congress dress code is not met.

** Special Note for Semi-formal Dresses: Party and prom dresses may be strapless, but must be appropriate. However, backless, low-cut (front or back) ensembles or those that expose the midriff or navel are not appropriate.