

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND DRINKING WATER BRANCH

September 17, 2021



Dear Mr. Kelman,

Thank you for your inquiry regarding proper dress attire at places of business in Connecticut. I have tried to address your questions below, but understand that you sent your inquiry to the Food Protection Program (FPP) at the Department of Public Health so my answers will pertain to food establishments only here in Connecticut.

1. When inspecting a business, what dress code does the Health Department require for private business employees?

Regarding food establishments, the public health code does not address personal attire. That would be an internal decision and policy made by the establishment owner/operator. FPP would expect employees of such establishment to abide by whatever internal policy was implemented, as long as it did not conflict with any provision of the code.

2. How often are Health Inspectors called upon to inspect non-food handling institutions (i.e. general offices, call centers, radio stations, etc.)?

Unless there is a nuisance complaint, environmental health specialists working at a local health department are not typically inspecting businesses that do not fall under the jurisdiction of the department.

3. Does the Health Department have a separate outline for dress requirements for patrons vs. Employees?

Regarding food establishments, no.



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4. Would the presence of a person without shoes on while on the business's premises violate any laws or health codes? If so, what is the penalty for a business if they are seen selling an item to a barefoot customer? (Food or Non-Food)

Not that I am aware of, however as I said previously, my responses only pertain to food establishments here in Connecticut. The current public health code is silent on any requirement regarding footwear for customers of food establishments.

Should you need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me by email, as that is the best method of contact at the present time due to teleworking conditions during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Regards,

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