



PPM 811.80  
EFFECTIVE DATE: 16 December 2024

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By Order of the Assistant Secretary for Health:

ADM Rachel M. Levine, M.D.

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SUBJECT: Updates to Uniform Policies

1. This Personnel Policy Memorandum (PPM) authorizes updates to Commissioned Corps Instruction (CCI) [412.01](#), "Uniforms and Appearance," dated 8 August 2022, [CCI 421.02](#), "Uniforms for Females Officers," dated 4 August 2020, [CCI 413.01](#), "Special Uniform Situations," dated 19 October 2021, [CCI 512.01](#), "Wear of Awards and Badges," dated 4 December 2023, and [CCI 311.06](#), "Religious Accommodations," dated 24 January 2022.
2. [CCI 412.01](#), "Uniforms and Appearance" is updated as follows:
  - a. Officers' Appearance. Section 6-5.b.(2) is revised to read:

Officers are authorized to have hands in their pockets when doing so does not compromise safety nor prohibit the proper rendering of honors and courtesies.
  - b. Cosmetics. Section 6-8.d.(2) is revised to read:

Women. Cosmetics may be applied in good taste so that colors blend with natural skin tone and enhance natural features. The USPHS Commissioned Corps does not authorize the wearing of exaggerated or faddish cosmetic styles, including cosmetic or body glitter, with the uniform. Officers should avoid an artificial appearance and only use conservative lipstick colors that complement the individual skin tone. False eyelashes or eyelash extensions are authorized that project a natural appearance and are no longer than 14 millimeters in length as measured from the eyelid to the tip of the eyelash. False eyelash color will match the color of the natural eyelash. Eyelash extensions cannot hinder safety, including the wear of protective eyewear.
3. [CCI 421.02](#), "Uniforms for Females Officers" is updated as follows:
  - a. Female Combination Cap (Bucket).
    - (1) Appendix A is amended by adding the Female Combination Cap (Bucket) to "Description and Correct Wear of Female Officer Uniform Components" as follows:

CAP, FEMALE COMBINATION (BUCKET), WHITE

- a. Description: A military style cap with black visor, circular brim with rigid upsweep sides and black cap band worn with detachable white or khaki cap cover, as required. When wearing an all-weather coat, a clear plastic combination cap rain cover may be worn. For visor ornamentation and cap device insignia, see [CCI 431.01](#), "Insignia and Devices."
    - b. Correct Wear: Officers must wear the cap squarely on the head, with the bottom edge parallel to the ground and approximately 1½ inches above the eyebrows. The USPHS Commissioned Corps has authorized the cap for wear for female officers with the Dinner Dress Blue, Dinner Dress White, Service Dress Blue, Service Dress White, Summer White, and Service Khaki uniforms. The USPHS Commissioned Corps has authorized the cap for wear with the Dinner Dress Blue Jacket and Dinner Dress White Jacket only when the outer garment is worn. Optional wear is not authorized with Full Dress Uniforms or when the Unisex combination cover is prescribed.
  - (2) Appendix A is amended by adding the Female Combination Cap (Bucket) as an authorized optional uniform component to the Dinner Dress Blue Jacket, Dinner Dress White Jacket, Dinner Dress Blue, Dinner Dress White, Service Dress Blue, Service Dress White, Summer White, and Service Khaki uniforms.
4. [CCI 413.01](#), "Special Uniform Situations" is updated as follows:
- a. Addition of Ball Cap to PTU. Section 8-12.a. is amended by adding a new paragraph (4) as follows:
    - (4) Officers are authorized to wear a solid dark blue or black ball cap with the PTU. Officers cannot wear these items except with the PTU.
  - b. Addition of Fitness Suit to PTU. Section 8-12., "Physical Training Uniform (PTU)" is amended by adding a new subsection c. as follows:
    - c. Fitness Suit. The Fitness Suit consists of a unisex, Navy Blue, water repellent, nylon jacket and pants. The nylon fabric offers moisture management and anti-microbial/odor resistant performance features. The jacket and pants each have a gold color heat transfer "USPHS" logo. The jacket and pants may or may not be trimmed in reflective silver piping. All fitness suit jackets will have reflective piping outlining the front zipper fastener.
      - (1) Jacket. The Fitness Suit Jacket is fully lined with a mesh fabric and has a center-front zipper closure with back and underarm air vents. The sleeves are designed to enhance movement and include partial elastic at the wrist. There are two side pockets with zipper and flap closures located on the lower front and a hidden pocket with a zipper fastener on the right chest interior. An adjustable interior waist draw-cord with barrel locks in the jacket pockets provides for waist adjustment. Non-reflective gold heat transfer "USPHS" logos are placed on the left front chest area and on the back, centered above the yoke. A non-reflective gold USPHS Seal is also one the left front chest, directly above the "USPHS" logo.



- (2) Pants. The Fitness Suit Pants are pull-on design with elastic waist and draw-cord for adjustment, fully lined with mesh fabric, two side pockets, and straight leg cut with bottom leg side zipper fasteners at the leg openings. The design also includes a vertical gold-color, heat-transfer "USPHS" logo on the lower right leg and a "USPHS" logo below a USPHS Seal on the upper left leg.



- (3) Correct Wear. When worn as a uniform, the Fitness Suit jacket and pants will be worn simultaneously as follows: Wear the Fitness Suit jacket squarely over the PTU shirt and zipped at least three quarters up. The sleeve cuffs will extend down to cover the wrist but not beyond the lower knuckle of the thumb. Wear the Fitness Suit pants fully on the waist and over the PTU shorts. The length of the pants shall extend down approximately 1-2 inches off of the floor/deck when wearing athletic shoes. At no time should the pants be of such length as to extend beyond the heel and touch the deck.
- (4) Occasion for Wear.
- (a) The Fitness Suit may be worn optionally or as prescribed by the Commanding Officer when performing unit/command physical training. The fitness suit jacket and/or pants may be worn with other components of the PTU. The Fitness Suit may also be worn during individual physical fitness activities. When worn for individual PT, the jacket and pants may be worn at the officer's discretion.
  - (b) Outside of Normal Duty Hours. The Fitness Suit may be worn both on and off base for liberty unless otherwise determined by the LUA. When worn for non-duty hours, individual components of the Fitness Suit may be worn at the officer's discretion. Officers are cautioned to wear a reflective belt or vest when wearing

physical training uniform components to conduct outdoor physical activities during reduced visibility hours.

- (c) Wear Restrictions and Allowances. The Fitness Suit is not authorized to be worn while in a duty status (unless it is worn when performing unit/command-directed physical training), in lieu of the uniform of the day, or when working. Pregnant officers may wear the Fitness Suit unless components become uncomfortable or tight. In all cases, the Fitness Suit will be worn in such a manner as to reflect credit upon the USPHS Commissioned Corps and the officer wearing it.
  - (d) Authorization for Wear for Retired Officers and Ready Reserve Corps Officers. Retired officers and Ready Reserve Corps officers not in a duty status may wear the fitness suit in accordance with the retirements established by this section.
- c. Addition of Optional Uniform Components for PTU. Section 8-12., "Physical Training Uniform (PTU)" is amended by adding a new subsection d. as follows:
  - d. Optional Uniform Components.
    - (1) Cap, Knit (Watch), Navy Blue or Black.
- 5. [CCI 512.01](#), "Wear of Awards and Badges" is updated as follows:
  - a. Section 6-26.f. is revised to read:

Badges that are worn centered above the ribbons or above the left pocket must be placed with a ¼ inch space above the pocket or ribbons. If an officer wears a second badge, it is centered below ribbons with the top of the device 1/4 inch below the top of the pocket or pocket flap, or centered below medals with the top of the device 1/4 inch below the lowest row of medals.



- b. Section 6-26.h.(2). is revised to read:

On the ODU, embroidered patches are centered above and flush with the wearer's nametape. If a second skill badge patch is worn, it is worn above the other patch, ¼ inch

above the lower. A PHS skill badge patch (e.g., FMRB) will be worn above other services skill badge patch.

Note: officers have until 1 January 2028 to satisfy this requirement. Until that time, either the specifications from this policy or the specifications from the previous version of this policy will be considered proper uniform wear.

6. [CCI 311.06](#), "Religious Accommodations" is updated as follows:

- a. Section 6-2.a. is amended by adding a new subsection (4), and renumbering the existing subsection (4) as (5), as follows:

(4) Long Sleeve Shirt under Short Sleeve Uniforms.

- (a) An officer with an accommodation may only wear a long sleeve shirt that is skin-tight in a color that closely resembles the assigned uniform (i.e., white or khaki).

7. This is the first issuance of this PPM, which is effective immediately and will remain in effect until the authorized updates are incorporated into [CCI 412.01](#), "Uniforms and Appearance," [CCI 421.02](#), "Uniforms for Females Officers," [CCI 413.01](#), "Special Uniform Situations," [CCI 512.01](#), "Wear of Awards and Badges," [CCI 311.06](#), "Religious Accommodations," or until this PPM is amended or rescinded, whichever occurs first.