

Important Information for NSW Health Staff

Uniform Update for NSW Health Staff

FRONTLINE CLINICAL UNIFORM TRIAL RESULTS

In preparation for the introduction of the new NSW Health uniform for frontline clinical staff, volunteers were recruited to test the quality and durability of three fabric options in three separate styles.

Volunteers were recruited through the Uniform Implementation Project Steering Committee (PSC) and NSW Nurses Association and tested the fabrics and styles over 30 days while working in their usual clinical roles. The three (3) different fabrics trialled were:

- Set 1 100% Cotton
- Set 2 Polyester / Cotton blend
- Set 3 Polyester / Viscose blend

Survey results indicate that Set 3 was most popular for:

- Durability
- Laundering
- Ironing
- Resistance to creasing
- Temperature (i.e. coolest fabric)
- Breathed well.

Based on trial results, (Set 3) Polyester/Viscose blend is the fabric recommended by the Uniform Working Party and has been endorsed by the Uniform Implementation Project Steering Committee. All scrub style uniforms and lower garments will be a Polyester/Viscose blend fabric.

NEW UNIFORM ORDERING

Western NSW and Sydney Local Health Districts (LHDs) will begin to order their new state-wide uniforms from November/December 2012. Uniforms will be dispatched in February 2013 (following the Christmas and New Year holiday period).

Local engagement meetings will commence shortly with both LHDs. Face to face staff information sessions will be scheduled in October 2012.

TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Face to face information sessions will be held at major facilities prior to your LHD going live with the online ordering system. These sessions will provide information on how to use the order system, the uniform styles and how to measure yourself to guarantee the most appropriate fit and size.

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WILL THERE BE A FITTING SERVICE OR AN OPPORTUNITY TO TRY UNIFORMS ON?

No. The new online ordering system allows staff to carefully select garments using their individual measurements. If after using the online ordering system you find that your uniform does not fit, you can exchange it for another size using the free returns service offered by supplier Parsons Logistik.

WORKSTREAMS BY COLOUR

Each workstream, including Nursing and Midwifery, Medical, Allied Health, Oral Health, Administration, Scientific and Technical Support and Patient Support Services will have their own individual uniform colours.

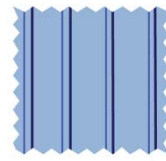
These colours will be consistent across the state to help make staff in our hospitals easily identifiable for patients. Workstream colours will apply to upper garments only. All lower garments (excluding Medical) will be Ink Navy.



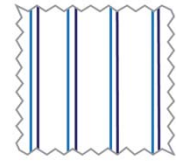
Nursing & Midwifery 1
AIN, AIM



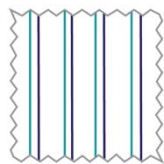
Nursing & Midwifery 2
RN, RM, EN



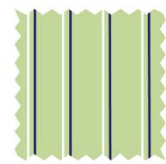
Nursing & Midwifery 3
Educators and Consulting



Nursing & Midwifery 4
NUM, MUM



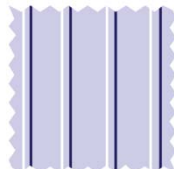
Scientific and Technical Support



Patient Support Services



Allied Health



Administration



Oral Health



Medical

CURRENT SUPPLY INFORMATION

From now until the end of September, Bisley will continue to supply the NSW Health workforce with uniforms and has sufficient stock to meet current uniform needs. If and when stock is unavailable, Bisley will offer an alternate item. Staff should continue to follow existing uniform ordering processes until the new uniform becomes available.

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NSW Health Uniform Project

For information regarding sale items and stock availability please contact Bisley Corporate Customer Service on 1300 656 440 or click the below link to access NSW Health uniform order forms:

http://intranet.hss.health.nsw.gov.au/hss_uniforms

50% off
selected
items during
September

TRANSITIONAL ORDER ARRANGEMENTS

From 28 September 2012 to 31 May 2013, there will be a transition period as we move from the current uniform to the new state-wide uniform. During this period Parsons Logistiks will distribute an interim (limited) range of uniforms. These items will be from the current range, therefore employees are advised to only order on a fair wear and tear basis or if you are a new starter.

KEY DATES

14 September 2012	Bisley fitting services will cease operations
21 September 2012	Last day for all current uniform orders to be received by Bisley
28 September 2012	Bisley will cease dispatching uniforms at 5pm
12 November 2012	Parsons Logistiks will commence distribution of the current uniform <u>Interim Range</u> only.

Important Information

ORDERING A UNIFORM DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD

Employees will not be able to order uniform items listed in the HIMF (Health Item Master File) from 28 September 2012.

An interim order form will be made available on all LHD Intranet sites from 12 November 2012.

Detailed information and order instructions will be released by the end of September.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Regular communication bulletins will be issued so ensure you check your noticeboards, local intranet and the HSS intranet site for updates. To provide comments and feedback on the introduction of the new state-wide uniform, you can also contact us via the following email address and intranet link:

Email: uniforminformation@hss.health.nsw.gov.au
Intranet: http://intranet.hss.health.nsw.gov.au/hss_uniforms

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why can't we have more colours to choose from?

Under the current tax legislation we are restricted to a maximum of eight (8) colours for the state. The colour choices for the new uniform work within this limit while still catering for all workstreams.

Will I lose my uniform allowance when the new uniforms are introduced?

The current award states that NSW Health is required to provide either an allocation of garments or a uniform allowance. Under the new model, staff will receive a garment allocation in lieu of the allowance. Employees will still receive the laundry allowance.

I can't wear polyester will there be a cotton option available?

A limited range of garments in 100% cotton will be made available to cater for those staff unable to wear polyester.

Will there be a uniform for trade staff (engineering, maintenance, etc)?

Yes. Trade, security, loading dock and outdoor workers are catered for with high visibility work wear and footwear (excluding Security).

My employees currently purchase their own uniforms as they are not provided a uniform allowance. Will they be able to order with the new supplier?

Personal purchase is available and payment can be made securely online with a credit card.

Scrub styles are not practical for community nurses. What provisions have been made for this group?

Community Health nursing staff will have access to the corporate style wardrobe and will be offered the same colours but in a corporate style blouse/shirt in poly cotton (i.e. RN/RM – Ink Navy corporate blouse).

Will there be a uniform for Security staff?

Yes. A uniform for Security staff in line with the Security Regulation 2007 will be available.

I am a part-time or casual employee and work additional shifts. My uniform allocation is not sufficient?

Part time or casual employees who are required to work additional shifts are able to order additional garments with the approval of their line managers.