



## Court of Master Sommeliers- Americas Dress Guidelines

On the path to making meaningful change with standards and guidelines that are transparent, inclusive, and equitable, The Court of Master Sommeliers- Americas aims to be proactive leaders in the hospitality industry.

### **We value safety, functionality to perform the tasks of the sommelier, and self-authenticity**

- Everyone in our community is valued as their authentic self
- We do not assume binary gender standards
- We do not identify any piece of clothing as being gender specific
- We understand that people with disabilities may need reasonable accommodations to these guidelines and we support flexibility in supporting such accommodations.
- We honor religious and cultural dress and all hairstyles
- **We do not award or deduct points on any exam based on appearance**

### **CMS-A Examinations**

**Professional Appearance:** Candidates are encouraged to dress in a manner that reflects your personal understanding of professional hospitality. Your attire should be neat and clean, and prioritize the safety of the guest, your own safety, and the efficiency of service in a professional, working environment.

- **Suggested attire:** Any combination of safe, workplace-appropriate pants, dress, suit, blazer, shirt, blouse, and shoes that enable you to provide your guests with outstanding hospitality.
- **Hygiene:** No excessive perfumes or odors are permitted out of respect for guests who may have allergies and sensitivities. Odors may also interfere with the ability of guests and your own to assess wines.
- **Safety:** Your attire should not inhibit your ability to safely perform the daily duties of a sommelier, and should not unduly restrict mobility. As in a restaurant, per Department of Health guidelines, please avoid:
  - Loose hair, as it has the potential for hair to land in guests' food or beverage. Hair that is shoulder length or longer should be pulled back.
  - Open toed shoes, as they do not provide sufficient protection from heavy objects or other obstacles.

**CMS-A Courses:** Introductory Sommelier Course and Examination, the Deductive Tasting Method Workshop, and the Advanced Sommelier Course

**Business Casual Appearance:** Students are asked to dress in a manner that reflects your personal understanding of *business casual* attire, combining a comfortable yet professional appearance that is also suitable for sitting for long periods of time.

- **Suggested attire:** Any combination of workplace-appropriate pants, dress, suit, blazer, shirt, blouse, and shoes that allows comfort and the ability to focus during the course.
- **Hygiene:** No excessive perfumes or odors are permitted out of respect for other students who may have allergies and sensitivities. Odors may also interfere with the ability of other students and your own to assess wines.

**Master Sommeliers:** All Courses and Examinations

**Professional Appearance:** Members are encouraged to dress in a manner that reflects your personal understanding of professional hospitality. Your attire should maintain a workplace-appropriate appearance, prioritizing safety of yourself, students, and candidates, and it should provide comfort during extended periods of standing and sitting throughout the course or examination.

- Required: Master Sommelier pin.
- Suggested attire: Any combination of safe, workplace-appropriate pants, dress, suit, blazer, shirt, blouse, and dress shoes, including stylish business casual sneakers.
- Hygiene: No excessive perfumes or odors are permitted out of respect for students, candidates and other members who may have allergies and sensitivities. Odors may also interfere with the ability of students and candidates to assess wines.