

# **AMUN** Conference Preparation Newsletter

22-25 November 2025 10 October 2025

## **AMUN Dress Code: Packing, Planning & Dressing for Success**

Greetings from the AMUN Secretariat! This newsletter contains important information about the representative dress code at AMUN, tips for budget-friendly shopping and practical packing suggestions.

As with most Model UN conferences, AMUN maintains a specific dress code for all attendees to help foster a professional and respectful environment for deliberation. For your convenience, the full text of the dress code is provided below and can also be found in the AMUN Handbook.

Our goal is to ensure the dress code is inclusive while supporting the formal atmosphere of the conference. If you have any questions or concerns—or if you'd like clarification—please don't hesitate to contact us at <a href="mail@amun.org">mail@amun.org</a>.

#### The AMUN Dress Code

The AMUN Dress Code states:

Professional business attire is a business jacket or suit, dress slacks or skirt, dress shirt and dress shoes. Conservative accessories such as ties, scarves and formal jewelry are traditional in business settings. Sweaters or leggings are too casual for professional business attire. Clothing that reveals undergarments in any way is not appropriate. AMUN will not consider any manner of dress appropriate that includes: t-shirts, jeans, shorts, hats, athletic shoes or any form of commercial advertising.

Participants shall not wear the traditional or religious garb of any State or organization. The only exception to this is required traditional or religious garb of a student's personal religion or culture. Additionally, participants should not affect the mannerisms, linguistic characteristics or any other perceived traits of a State or culture that they are representing. These affectations are inappropriate and may be seen as offensive by other students or by natives of that State or culture. Small lapel pins representing the delegation's flag or other national symbols are appropriate.

Please be aware that representatives who are not appropriately attired or who do not follow these rules may not be recognized during formal debate in any AMUN simulation. Further, AMUN reserves the right to refuse admittance to the Conference floor to any representative who is inappropriately attired or who violates the above provisions. Decisions about appropriate attire and professional behavior are at the discretion of the AMUN Secretariat.

#### A Note About the AMUN Dress Code

The world of international diplomacy is both conservative and slow to change; while what is acceptable as professional attire in business settings is slowly shifting, the appropriate attire for visiting an embassy or engaging in international diplomacy remains conventional. Our goal at AMUN is to encourage students to engage with and experience professional business attire in an educational environment, while also acknowledging that this can be difficult for some of our participants. Representatives should feel free to express themselves and their gender identities within the boundaries of the dress code and should demonstrate an intent to conform with the dress code.

For further elaboration, read <u>Dress to Impress—A Guide to Being AMUN Fabulous</u> on the *AMUN Accords*.

## Professional Attire on a Budget

We understand that buying suits, accessories and professional clothing for a four-day conference can be expensive—especially for college students on tight budgets. That's why we've put together some helpful tips to make preparing for AMUN both affordable and stress-free.

- **Start with your closet.** Take inventory of what you already own that fits the dress code. Try everything on to make sure it still fits comfortably.
- **Plan ahead.** Map out four outfits using what you have. You can absolutely re-use pieces—only have two jackets? Alternate them. The same goes for shirts, pants, skirts, and other outerwear.
- Focus on versatility. Look for neutral colors and classic styles that can be mixed and matched easily. This helps stretch your wardrobe without needing to buy more.
- Check for student discounts. Many retailers offer discounts for college students—just bring your student ID or verify online through platforms like UNIDAYS or Student Beans.
- Shop smart. A month or two before the conference, spend a day with friends

- checking out thrift stores or sales at places like Loft, H&M, Old Navy, GAP and TJ Maxx. Don't forget online options like Amazon and ThredUp.
- **Ask around.** Talk to others in your Model UN club or class—someone might have business attire they're willing to lend or donate.
- **Use campus resources.** Many colleges offer free business wear closets through their career services office. These are great for interviews and conferences alike.

## **Practical Packing Tips for AMUN**

Preparing for a multi-day conference doesn't have to be overwhelming. With a little planning, you can pack efficiently, stay comfortable and look professional throughout the event.

- Make a packing list. Decide on your outfits in advance, and write down what you need. Having a plan makes packing less stressful.
- **Don't forget shoes and accessories.** Comfortable, professional shoes are essential—we also recommend rotating shoes throughout the day for maximum comfort. Accessories like ties, scarves and jewelry can also elevate an outfit without breaking the bank.
- **Plan for weather.** Chicago weather can be unpredictable. Consider layers, and check the forecast before packing.
- **Practice wearing your outfits.** Try on your full outfits ahead of time to make sure everything fits well and feels comfortable for long days of activity.
- Pack a small sewing kit or fashion tape. These can be lifesavers for quick fixes during Conference.
- **Bring a reusable water bottle.** Staying hydrated is important and the Sheraton is known for being extremely dry. Packing a water bottle is more sustainable than buying bottled water.

### **Questions, Comments or Concerns?**

If you have any questions about this email, please reach out to us at <a href="mail@amun.org">mail@amun.org</a>— we're happy to help!

If you are no longer the primary contact for your school's Model UN program, please send updated information to <a href="mail@amun.org">mail@amun.org</a> or complete our <a href="mail@amun.org">Change of Address/Contact</a> form.

Best of luck with your preparations,

Tessa Schutt

Secretary-General

Alexandra Middlewood Executive Director

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