

Graduation Dress Requirements

The idea in choosing your graduation dress is to keep it elegant and simple. Please adhere to the following guidelines when selecting your dress.

1. Dresses must be **true white** in color (not candlelight, antique, pearl, champagne, eggshell, cream, etc.). Decorations (sequins, rhinestones, beads, etc.) should be minimal and white in color. Get approval before purchasing or ordering the dress.
2. Dresses must be **floor length**. Your dress should skim the top of your foot. Be sure to allow plenty of fabric in the skirt as you must negotiate steps (even the inner lining must allow for free movement). No slits should extend above the bottom of the knee and, if possible, they should be filled in with fabric for a “kick pleat”.
3. Undergarments appropriate to the individual style of your dress must be worn. This includes brassieres and full length slips. **You can see through dresses, especially in sunlight!** Check it out ahead of time.
4. **“Straps/sleeves” of at least four inches wide** must be sewn onto any strapless dresses. They may be out of ribbon, tulle, lace, the same fabric as the dress, etc. Another option over such a dress would be a bolero type jacket out of the same fabric as the dress. Backless, off-the-shoulder, halter style, and low cut bodices are inappropriate for this event. **No shawls will be allowed.**
5. **White, just-below-the-elbow-length gloves must be worn.** These are available at homecoming and prom time in accessory stores. Please look for them as soon as possible.
6. Necklaces and hair ornaments are inappropriate for the occasion. Absolutely no crowns, tiaras, etc. allowed. If leis are part of your culture, the flowers must be white. Simple white flowers may be worn in your hair.
7. White dress shoes must be worn. Be mindful that you’ll be walking on grass and negotiating steps. Spike heels can be problematic. Nice flats or low heels are appropriate. No tennis shoes or Doc Martins!
8. You should have received swatches of fabric to take shopping with you to assure that you have a true white dress. The fabric may be shiny, sheer, patterned, etc., but it may ***NOT*** be anything other than true white.

The dress must be approved by the Senior GLC via email to gkam@connellyhs.org. Please get the approval *before* purchasing. If you are having the dress made, please bring in the pattern and a swatch of the fabric. If you are renting the dress, bring in a picture of yourself in the dress. If you are buying the dress, you must send in a photo via e-mail or it must be brought into the GLC by **April 13, 2015, immediately after Easter break**. This information is being provided early in the school year so you may comply with that deadline. All senior privileges (off-campus lunch, jean days, Ditch Day, Prom and Grad Nights), will be suspended until compliance is demonstrated! If you have any questions, please see the Senior GLC, Mrs. Kam, before any financial commitment is made. Anyone arriving in a dress not in compliance with the above guidelines will be provided a white sweater to wear.