



LeTip Dress Codes

What you wear reveals much about you, including confidence, self-esteem, and reliability.

LeTip International is considered by many to be the most professional networking organization in North America. By projecting a polished, professional appearance, LeTip members inspire confidence, trustworthiness and experience.

We all come from different backgrounds, generations, and cultures. As individuals, we each have our own particular style, and our tastes differ, yet it is important to understand that appropriate dress standards must be followed, as this supports a business atmosphere conducive to chapter and member success.

As professionals, if we want to increase our business, we must make sure that everything we project about ourselves clearly represents our company's goals and values. Part of that branding includes the way we dress.

Acceptable Dress Codes

We accept business professional, business casual and industry specific dress codes at LeTip meetings. The standards for these requirements are outlined below.

Business Professional Dress Code

These standards are the norm for many professions: banking, financial, legal, consulting, insurance and other professionals. Board members are chapter leaders and, because of this, we encourage them to follow this formal code. For women, this means a business suit or pants suit, a dress, or a skirt with a blouse, jacket or sweater. Dresses and skirts should be knee length or longer. For men, professional dress means a business suit or a blazer, dress pants and a tie.

Business Casual Dress Code

This code is not as dressy as formal work attire, yet still very professional. Business casual includes button-down shirts, trousers, blouses, sport coats, and skirts and slacks. Shoes should always be polished; loafers or similar styles are acceptable. Avoid sneakers and sandals. Clothing should always be pressed. If you look wrinkled, you risk sending the message that you're disheveled and disorganized.

Industry Specific Dress Code

We welcome landscapers, mechanics, painters, chefs, maintenance workers, contractors, technicians, and other professionals within particular industries, to wear their company's uniforms. Cleaned and pressed, a work uniform can be an important sales tool indicating a reliable, consistent, and organized professional. Polo shirts with a collar and company logo, khakis, or matching work pants and shirts are all acceptable; old, wrinkled jeans and T-shirts are not.

Inappropriate Dress

Clothing that you would wear to the beach, the gym, dance clubs, and sports events are not appropriate for your chapter meeting. Unacceptable dress for members includes sun dresses, midriff bearing tops, muscle shirts, sneakers, sandals, jeans, tee shirts, flip flops, and shorts.

Still not sure?

No dress code can cover all contingencies. If you experience uncertainty about acceptable, professional, business attire, go with the more conservative approach. Keep in mind that business attire also varies by region. 120° heat in Arizona may dictate a short sleeved dress shirt without a tie, which would be unacceptable on Wall Street.



*LeTip of Doylestown, PA Chapter President Jim Wagner, and Past Presidents Pamela Ginsberg and Rick Millham, pass Tips prior to their chapter meeting.
Photo: Frank Pronesti, Lower Bucks, PA*

Dressing for LeTip Success

by Rick Millham Jr,

Everyday we judge people by the way they look and dress. Look at someone, and before you even have a chance to speak with them, you have formed an immediate perception of them. Your perception may be right or it may be wrong—either way, it can affect how you treat them.

As a business owner, I can tell you that by what I say and do, I am constantly molding my employees' perception of me. I never relax; I must be the best in the office in all areas—including the way I dress. I need to be “presidential.”

As a President of LeTip of Doylestown for two years, plus having been on the board for an additional ten years, I can tell you the same thing applies to LeTip. I have spent years wearing a suit every Thursday morning without fail. Would I like to wear a golf shirt? Yes. Would I do it? No.

Why? Because if I were sloppy in my attire, what kind of a subliminal message would I be sending out about the way I handle my own business? Additionally, LeTip chapter members deserve and expect professionalism in all areas of conduct. This includes looking like a successful business person. A properly attired LeTip President sets the standard by which his or her ability to lead the chapter is judged.

Guests also judge a chapter by the professional appearance of the meeting, the members, and the board. In LeTip over the last four years I have received numerous comments as guests walk away after their first meeting impressed by the professional way LeTip is run. The meeting structure, and the professionally dressed board all play a key part.

Still not convinced? Would you go on a job interview in a golf shirt? Why not? Are you concerned with a good first impression? The same applies to LeTip. Dress like a leader, talk like a leader, and act like a leader, and you will be a leader. Remember your fellow members are your customers and sales force—lead by example.

In LeTip, successful and valuable members are evidenced more by what they do than what they say. The success of your chapter equals your ultimate success in your business. Building your chapter to 30, 40, 50+ members will bring you the business you want. So start by dressing for success. Set an example, especially if you are a board member, and wear professional attire to every meeting. You will see amazing results as people respond to the example you set.

Rick Millham Jr., is President of Millham Insurance in Doylestown, PA. Rick, a Gold Badge member, joined LeTip in 1997. He is Past President, and a 10-year Board Member of LeTip of Doylestown.