**Joy El Appearance Guidelines**

God does not judge us by our outward appearance, but by our hearts (1 Sam 16:7). Yet we also see guidelines for appearance provided in Scripture (1 Cor 10:32-33). The important thing is realizing that even our appearance sets an example for both the world we’re trying to reach and the Christians to whom we’re seeking to minister. With that in mind, we ask you to seek God in this area of your life.

When serving as summer staff members, we set a vital example to our campers in neatness, modesty, and cleanliness.  We represent to outsiders the character of this ministry.  Good taste should dictate when choosing attire.  We should not have to apologize for our appearance to families who trust us with their children.

Some appearance guidelines have your and others’ safety in mind.

Please request a copy of “The Why Behind Appearance Guidelines” for more information.

**Specific guidelines:**

Clothing should not be too short, tight, or draw undue attention.  Shorts should be finger-tip length.  Tank top straps should be at least two inches wide. No leggings (short or long). No visible undergarments.

Female swimwear: Modest one-piece or two-piece that covers the midriff.

Male swimwear: should not be too short, tight, or draw undue attention.

Appropriate footwear should be worn at all times. Closed-toe shoes with backs should be worn except for traveling to and from the pool or waterslide.

Males:  No earrings while serving.  Hair should be neat, clean and of a reasonable length. Facial hair should be well-groomed and clean in appearance. We have many conservative families that send their children to Joy El and we do not wish to offend.  We trust you understand the intent and "heart" of this policy.

We discourage tattoos and piercings (beyond ear piercings for women). In seeking to set a good example, if you have body piercings or tattoos, please remove or cover while ministering to others.

We reserve the right to handle appearance guidelines on a case-by-case basis as needed.

We encourage you to align your social media usage with the above principles as well.

Failure to meet expressed expectations may mean that the student/staff member is dismissed from the program and/or not allowed to directly minister to campers and guests.

It is important to remember that God does not love you any more or less based on how you dress. God is more interested in who you are than in what you do, but we also know that our actions and exterior often reflect what is in our hearts.