Health Screening Requirements
Health Professional Programs

Learners in health professional programs at McMaster University (except for visiting elective postgraduate medicine students from Ontario Universities) must be cleared by the Faculty of Health Sciences Health Screening Office before they may participate in clinical activities.

McMaster University Faculty of Health Sciences health screening requirements meet current Ontario Hospital Association/Ontario Medical Association Joint Communicable Diseases Surveillance Protocols for Ontario Hospitals, in accordance with Regulation 965, Section 4 of the Public Hospitals Act. Students are responsible to apprise themselves of any additional requirements at individual clinical placement sites and submit documentation directly to the placement site.

1. Tuberculosis (TB):
   Postgraduate Medical Education (prior to program start only):
   - Negative two-step TST plus additional negative single TST within the past 12 months if required (or additional negative single TST within the last 4 years plus post-exposure negative TST if required for visiting students from other Canadian Universities, or negative IGRA serology within the last 12 months for international elective students and fellows who cannot access a TST), OR
   - Positive TST or other positive TB history plus a negative chest x-ray plus verification of no symptoms of active TB disease.
   
   Visiting elective undergraduate medical students (prior to elective start):
   - Negative two-step TST plus additional negative single TST within six months prior to medical school entry if required (negative IGRA serology within six months prior to medical school entry accepted for international students), plus verification of no symptoms of active TB disease post-exposure, OR
   - Positive TST or other positive TB history plus a negative chest x-ray plus verification of no symptoms of active TB disease.
   
   Other health professional programs (prior to program start and annually):
   - Negative two-step TST plus negative single TST within six months prior to program start if required, plus annual screening and single TST post-exposure, OR
   - Positive TST or other positive TB history plus a negative chest x-ray and annual verification of no symptoms of active TB disease.

2. Pertussis: One Tdap vaccine (tetanus, diphtheria & pertussis) age 18 years or older.

3. Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio (may be in process at program start): Primary immunization series plus tetanus/diphtheria booster in last ten years if required.

4. Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella: Two vaccinations for measles, mumps and varicella spaced at least 28 days apart, and one vaccination for rubella, age 12 months or older. OR Positive IgG antibody serology.

5. Hepatitis B (may be in process at program start): Vaccination series according to recommended immunization schedule plus positive anti-HBs serology (unless the student is a vaccine non-responder or has chronic Hepatitis B infection or is immune to due natural infection).

6. Influenza: Annual influenza immunization for clinical placements occurring between November and April.

   Postgraduate Medical Education:
   - Students comply with CPSO Blood Borne Policy. Students self-report infection to the Associate Dean of Postgraduate Medical Education.

Midwifery, Physician Assistant, and Undergraduate Medical Education programs:
   - Test for HBsAg dated on or after assessment for Hepatitis B immunity (or within six months prior to program start if Hepatitis B primary vaccination series still in process).
   - Tests for HIV and Hepatitis C within six months prior to program start and repeat tests every four years during the program. Students self-report positive results to the Assistant Dean of their program.

Other health professional programs: Testing and reporting not required.