Health Screening Requirements
Health Professional Programs

Health Screening website: https://fhs.mcmaster.ca/healthscreening/

The 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 in the following health professional programs must be cleared by the Health Screening Office before they may participate in clinical activities:

Midwifery Education
MSc Child Life & Pediatric Psychosocial Care
MSc Occupational Therapy
MSc Physiotherapy
MSc Speech-Language Pathology
Nursing (graduate and undergraduate)
Physician Assistant Education
Postgraduate Medical Education (excluding visiting elective students from Ontario Universities)
Undergraduate Medical Education (including visiting elective students)

1. Tuberculosis (TB):
   - **Postgraduate Medical Education** (prior to program start):
     - No positive TB history: Negative two-step tuberculin skin test (TST), plus single TST post-exposure (negative IGRA serology within 12 months prior to program start for international elective students and fellows without access to a TST), plus verification of no symptoms of active TB disease post-exposure.
     - Positive TB history: Negative chest x-ray, plus verification of no symptoms of active TB disease.
   - **Visiting elective undergraduate medical students** (prior to elective start):
     - No positive TB History: Negative two-step TST, plus negative single TST if two-step TST given more than six months prior to medical school entry (IGRA serology within six months prior to medical school entry for international students without access to a TST), plus verification of no symptoms of active TB disease post-exposure.
     - Positive TB History: Negative chest x-ray, plus verification of no symptoms of active TB disease.
   - Other health professional programs:
     - No positive TB history: Negative two-step TST, plus negative single TST if two-step TST given more than six months prior to program start, plus annual screening and single TST post-exposure.
     - Positive TB history: Negative chest x-ray, plus verification of no symptoms of active TB disease, plus annual verification of no symptoms of active TB disease.

2. Pertussis: One Tdap vaccine (tetanus, diphtheria & pertussis) given 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: Two vaccinations for measles and mumps spaced at least 28 days apart, and one vaccination for rubella, given age 12 months or older ▶ OR ◀ Positive IgG antibody serology.

5. Varicella: Two vaccinations spaced at least 28 days apart, given age 12 months or older ▶ OR ◀ Positive IgG antibody serology.

6. Influenza: Student to provide proof of current season’s influenza immunization directly to the placement site.

7. Hepatitis B (may be in process at program start): Vaccination according to recommended immunization schedule plus positive anti-HBs serology, OR if no proof of immunity by program start, verification and education of status.

   - **Postgraduate Medical Education**:
     Testing in accordance with CPSO Blood Borne Viruses Policy. Students self-report positive results to the CPSO and the Assistant Dean of Postgraduate Medical Education.
   - **Midwifery, Physician Assistant, and Undergraduate Medical Education**:
     HBsAg serology after completion of Hepatitis B primary vaccination series, or within six months prior to program start if primary series still in process, plus Hepatitis C and HIV serology within six months prior to program start and repeated every four years. Only the dates of tests are required, verified by a nurse or physician after reviewing the reports with the student. Students self-report positive results to the Assistant Dean of their program.
   - Other health professional programs: Testing and reporting not required.