

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

Health Screening Office contact:

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Learners in health professional programs at McMaster University (except 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.

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 baseline two-step TST plus additional negative single TST if required (within the 12 months of home school postgraduate program start date plus post-exposure for visiting elective students from Canadian Universities, within the last 12 months for all other students), OR negative IGRA serology within the last 12 months for visiting international students 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 during clerkship (prior to elective start):

- Negative baseline 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 additional negative single TST within six months prior to program start if required, plus single TST post-exposure during the program, OR
- Positive TST or other positive TB history plus a 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) age 18 years or older.

3. Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio (may be in process at program start): Documented vaccination series plus tetanus-diphtheria booster in last ten years.

4. Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella: Two measles vaccines, two mumps vaccines, one rubella vaccine, two varicella vaccines ◀ OR ▶ Positive IgG antibody serology. Vaccines given age 12 months or older and spaced at least 28 days apart.

5. Hepatitis B (may be in process at program start): Documented vaccination series (unless immunity to due natural infection or chronic Hepatitis B infection is documented), plus positive post-immunization anti-HBs serology (unless student is a vaccine non-responder).

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

7. Blood borne viruses – Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV):

Postgraduate Medical Education:

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

Midwifery, Physician Assistant, and Undergraduate Medical Education:

- Test for HBsAg one or more months after a documented Hepatitis B vaccination series (and within 6 months prior to program start if a documented series is still in process at program start), plus tests for HIV and Hepatitis C within six months prior to program start and repeated 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.