

Faculty of Health Sciences Health Screening Requirements

Health Screening website: https://fhs.mcmaster.ca/healthscreening/ Health Screening Office contact: https://fhs.mcmaster.ca/healthscreening/ https://fhs.mcmaster.ca/healthscreening/</a

Learners in all health professional programs and non-professional health sciences courses which include clinical activities are required to understand and comply with the Faculty of Health Sciences health screening requirements. All health screening documentation must be reviewed and cleared by the Health Screening Office before learners may attend clinical activities. The Health Screening Office can approve exemptions for valid medical reasons only; learners with a medical or non-medical exemption may be excluded from clinical placement or from specific clinical activities at the discretion of a placement site. Learners are responsible to apprise themselves of any other requirements at individual clinical placement sites and submit documentation directly to the placement site.

REQUIRED PRIOR TO PROGRAM/ELECTIVE /COURSE START:

- 1. COVID-19: Primary vaccination series according to Canadian Immunization Guide.
- 2. Tuberculosis (TB) screening:

All programs – ONE of the following:

- Baseline two-step TST (two separate tests given between 7 days and 12 months apart) from anytime in the past; AND an additional single (one-step) TST if not already included in the two-step test:
 - * New Postgraduate Medicine trainees/electives, non-professional health sciences courses within the last 12 months.
 - New Postgraduate Medicine electives from other Canadian Universities within 12 months prior to home school program start.
 - Graduate/Undergraduate health professional programs within 6 months prior to program start.
 - * Undergraduate Medicine electives within 6 months prior to medical school entry.
- OR negative IGRA serology if unable to access TST in current country of residence for international Postgraduate Medicine learners and international Undergraduate Medicine electives ONLY:
 - * New international Postgraduate Medicine learners- within 12 months of submission.
 - * International Undergraduate Medicine electives within 6 months prior to medical school entry.
- OR positive TST or other positive TB history (positive IGRA, blistering TST reaction, previous treatment for TB); AND a
 negative chest x-ray dated subsequent to the positive TST or other positive TB history; AND verification of no symptoms
 of TB disease.

Postgraduate Medicine - TB risk assessment for all learners.

- 3. Measles, Mumps, Rubella: Two vaccines for measles, two vaccines for mumps and one vaccine for rubella given at age 12 months or older and spaced at least 28 days apart; OR positive IgG antibody serology.
- **4. Varicella:** Two vaccines given at age 12 months or older and spaced at least 28 days apart; OR positive IgG antibody serology.
- 5. Pertussis: One Tdap vaccine (tetanus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis) age 18 years or older.
- 6. Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio (may be in process): Documented vaccination series; minimum 3 doses; minimum one month between the first two doses; minimum 6 months between the last two doses in a series; last tetanus-diphtheria within the last 10 years.
- 7. Hepatitis B (may be in process): Documented vaccination series at age-appropriate dosages and schedule (unless immunity due to naturally acquired infection or chronic Hepatitis B infection is documented); AND serology for immunity (anti-HBs) tested at least 28 days after the last dose in a documented series.
- B. Blood borne viruses Hepatitis B, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis C:
 - Postgraduate Medicine: Serologic testing is not required by the Health Screening Office. Learners who have been tested must SELF-REPORT positive serology to the Associate Dean of Postgraduate Medical Education PRIOR to start.
 - Midwifery, Physician Assistant, Undergraduate Medicine programs: Serology for Hepatitis B infection (HBsAg) after completion of a primary Hepatitis B vaccination series, OR within six months prior to program start if the series is in process; HIV and Hepatitis C serology within six months prior to program start; learners self-report positive results to the Assistant/Associate Dean of their program.
 - Undergraduate Medicine electives in surgical specialties, obstetrics, gynecology, and emergency: HBsAg serology dated
 after a Hepatitis B vaccination series, or within 6 months prior to medical school entry if the series is in process; HIV and
 Hepatitis C serology within six months prior to medical school entry and repeated after four years; learners self-report
 positive results to the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Medical Education.
 - All other programs: Testing and/or reporting not required.
- 9. Influenza: Immunization with current seasonal vaccine if required for placements between November and April.

REQUIRED AFTER PROGRAM START: (graduate/undergraduate and non-professional programs)

- 10. Tuberculosis (TB): Post-exposure TST during the program/course and annual TB risk assessment for returning learners.
- **11. Blood borne viruses** Midwifery, Physician Assistant, Undergraduate Medical Education: Repeat HBsAg serology after completion of a primary Hepatitis B vaccination series if required; repeat HIV and Hepatitis C serology after four years during the program.
- 12. Influenza: Annual immunization with seasonal influenza vaccine.
- 13. Updated requirements: Any NEW requirements which go into effect after program start.