

Undergraduate Medicine Visiting Electives Immunization Requirements

- Students must be cleared by the Health Screening Office before they may attend their elective. Applications may be cancelled if immunizations are not fully cleared by 8 weeks prior to the earliest requested elective start date.
- AFMC Student Portal Immunization and Testing form must be submitted with applications. To download the form, click here: <https://afmcstudentportal.ca/immunization>
- Older versions of the form will be accepted if already completed. An incomplete form may be submitted with the initial application, but all outstanding requirements must be submitted AND cleared at least 8 weeks prior to the earliest requested start date.
- Submit all immunization documents to your application on the AFMC Student Portal.
- Keep copies of all immunization documents on file in case they are required by the placement site.
- Contact the Health Screening Office for immunization questions or concerns, 905-525-9140 ext 22249, hrsadmin@mcmaster.ca

Checklist for requirements on the AFMC Student Portal Immunization and Testing form:

- A. Student Declaration:** Student to complete and sign.
- B. Health Care Professional (HCP) Information:** HCP to complete and sign.
- C. Exceptions and Contraindications:** HCP to complete if student is unable to complete a requirement due to medical reasons and student to complete *Appendix A. Exceptions and Contraindications to Immunizations and Testing Self-Declaration Form*.
- D. Pertussis:** For more information, click on [Tdap Information](#)
One Tdap (tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis) vaccine AGE 18 YEARS OR OLDER required. International students unable to access the vaccine in their home country need to have the vaccine in Canada before starting an elective.
- E. Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio:** Documented vaccination series required (minimum 3 doses). May be in process at elective start (all previous doses count towards the total series as long as minimum spacing requirements are met).
- F. Tuberculosis (TB):**
- Tuberculin skin tests (TST) must be fully documented with date and mm induration.
 - Two-step TST (or IGRA serology for international students who cannot access a TST in their home country) required unless a positive TST or other positive TB history is fully documented.
 - Section F3 Recent TB Exposures required if baseline screening is negative (student may complete).
 - Attach a chest x-ray report dated subsequent to a positive TST or other positive TB history.
 - Student to complete *Appendix B. Tuberculosis Awareness, and Signs and Symptoms Self-Declaration Form* if a positive TST or other positive TB history is documented, OR if any answers are yes in Section F3 Recent TB Exposures.
- G. Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella:** For more information, click on [MMRV Information](#)
- Two vaccines for measles, mumps, and varicella spaced at least 28 days apart, and one vaccine for rubella, given age 12 months or older, OR positive IgG antibody serology required.
 - Do NOT test serology after vaccination or repeat previous serology.
 - Booster doses beyond the required vaccines are not necessary (even if IgG antibody serology is negative).
- H. Hepatitis B:** For more information, click on [Hepatitis B Immunization & Serology](#)
- Documented vaccination series required (see Canadian Immunization Guide for recommended dosages and schedules). May be in process at elective start (all previous doses count towards the total series as long as minimum spacing requirements are met). Exception: Vaccines not required if immunity due to naturally acquired infection or chronic Hepatitis B infection documented.
 - Test for immunity (anti-HBs = Hepatitis B surface ANTIBODY) required one or more months after a documented vaccination series and any required boosters. NOTE: Positive anti-HBs serology alone is not considered proof of immunity if documented vaccines are missing or incomplete and should be repeated after completion of a documented series.
 - Test for infection (HBsAg = Hepatitis B surface ANTIGEN) required either one or more months after a documented vaccination series, OR within 6 months prior to medical school entry if a documented series is still in process (do not test within 28 days after a Hepatitis B vaccine to avoid the possibility of a false positive result).
 - Student to complete *Appendix D. Hepatitis B Not Immune Self-Declaration Form* if a documented vaccination series is incomplete or anti-HBs serology is not immune (< 10 IU/L).
 - Students with positive HBsAg serology must self-report their status to the McMaster University Associate Dean of Undergraduate Medical Education (905-525-9140 ext 22141).
- I. Influenza:** Student to provide proof of influenza immunization for electives between November and June in person to the placement site; documentation does not need to be submitted to the Portal or the Health Screening Office.
- J. HIV and Hepatitis C:** Testing for HIV and Hepatitis C required. Submit official reports (or Appendix E on the 2018 form) either with an application (preferred) or as soon as possible after an elective is confirmed. Tests must be dated after March 1st the year of medical school entry and are valid for four years. Students with positive serology must self-report their status to the McMaster University Associate Dean of Undergraduate Medical Education (905-525-9140 ext 22141).