

GAHANNA-JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS TUBERCULOSIS (T.B.) TESTING REQUIREMENTS

TB, or tuberculosis, is a disease caused by a bacteria called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. The bacteria can attack any part of your body, but usually attacks the lungs. TB is spread through the air from one person to another when a person with TB disease coughs or sneezes. People nearby can breathe in these bacteria and become infected. People with TB disease are most likely to spread it to people they spend time with every day such as family members, friends, or coworkers. Most TB infections in children are asymptomatic (but can still be contagious). Clinical manifestations appear 1 to 6 months after infection and include fever, weight loss, cough, night sweats, and chills.

Students that have EVER lived in or visited ANY country outside of the United States for more than 3 MONTHS (90 days) MUST have a tuberculin or PPD skin test, Quantiferon Gold (QTFGP) or Interferon gamma release assay (IGRA) blood test with follow-up according to the American Thoracic Society/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (ATS/CDC) guidelines which are endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Students must be tested even if they have a history of BCG vaccine.

1. The TB test must have been administered in the United States. If a student leaves the United States again for more than 3 months, a new TB test will be required before school re-entry.
2. The school must have a note from a healthcare provider on file stating the date, the result (negative or positive) and the mm size for skin testing.
3. Positive skin reactions require further testing (blood test or chest x-ray). The results from additional testing (and treatment if required for latent TB) must be received before the child will be permitted to enter school.
4. If your child had a positive TB skin test, followed by a negative chest x-ray, but the chest x-ray was greater than 12 months ago, a new chest x-ray is required unless there is documentation of completed drug therapy for latent TB.

If your child still needs to receive TB testing, contact your family physician. If you do not have a primary healthcare provider, other locations that offer tuberculin skin testing include:

Nationwide Children's Hospital Close to Home Centers

Dublin (614) 355-7000

Canal Winchester (614) 355-9050

Monday - Friday 3-7 p.m.. No appointment necessary

CVS Minute Clinic

<http://www.minuteclinic.com/OH/Columbus/Clinics.aspx>

Kroger Little Clinic

<https://www.thelittleclinic.com/>

Walgreens Take Care Clinic

<https://www.walgreens.com/topic/pharmacy/healthcare-clinic.jsp>