

Requirements for Health Science Students at the University of Iowa

These requirements are for students starting first semester of:

- Medical / PA / Nursing / Dental / Pharmacy
- Perfusion
- Physical Therapy
- Radiation Science
- Athletic Training
- Masters of Clinical Nutrition
- EMT
- Speech Pathology (check with your coordinator for timing)

These requirements are consistent with healthcare workers at the UIHC and other patient care settings and will protect you AND your patients.

MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella): (2) vaccines or positive antibody titers (blood tests) of all three diseases. (2) doses of each of the single component vaccines are acceptable. The first MMR must be given no sooner than one year after date of birth to be valid, and the MMR vaccines must be at least 28 days apart. For health science students, there is no age exemption for MMR.

Hepatitis B: A vaccine series with 2 or 3 vaccines completed at the appropriate intervals, followed by an initial antibody titer 1 month or more after third vaccine. The titer is REQUIRED, even if series was completed as a child. If you have no hep B vaccination records but believe you got them, you can just get the titer to check for immunity. If you are a hepatitis B non-responder, repeat a hepatitis B vaccine series and check a titer 1-2 months after the final vaccine. If you are in the process of completing the requirement, you are given one semester to provide documentation.

Forms/letters will not be provided to give to your program.

Varicella (chicken pox): (2) vaccines or positive antibody titer. We do not accept report of disease history. If you had varicella disease as a child and no history of (2) vaccines, you must have a titer to document immunity.

Tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis: (1) Td (tetanus/diphtheria) at least every 10 years. Must have documentation of (1) Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine.

TB (Tuberculosis) screening: A two-step TB skin test (TST) or the blood test- IGRA (Interferon Gamma Release Assay- QuantiFERON Gold or T-Spot) is required at the start of your program.

- If you have never had any TB skin testing, the two-step TST is done as follows: The first test is placed, and results are read in 48-72 hrs. The second test is placed at least 7 days after the placement of the first test and read at 48-72 hrs. Send documentation of both tests, and include placement date, reading date, result and mm induration. Having (2) negative TSTs within the past 12 months will meet the two-step requirement.
- If you have documentation of (1) negative TST in the past 12 months, or documentation of (2) negative TSTs in your past, you only need one more TST to meet the two-step requirement.

- If you have ever had the Bacille Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccine, given to children in some countries to prevent TB, you should get the IGRA blood test instead of skin tests.
- If you have a negative TB blood test (IGRA) performed in the US within the past calendar year, that meets the initial TB screening requirement and a two-step TST is not needed. Indeterminate IGRA results will not be accepted.
- If you have a negative IGRA that was done longer than one year ago, you will need to repeat the IGRA (must be done in the US) or complete the two-step TST (if you have never gotten BCG vaccine).

Those with a history of a positive TST or IGRA must provide a copy of the CXR (Chest x-ray) report. If treated for LTBI (Latent TB Infection), provide medication information and treatment dates. Students with a history of a positive TST are also required to complete a symptom assessment at the start of their program. The “History of Positive TB Screening Results” form is in the link listed in this Health Sciences student section.

Health Screening: This is a form required by some (but not all) health science colleges. The College of Medicine, College of Dentistry, Masters of Clinical Nutrition, EMT, and Speech Pathology programs do NOT require the form. The other health science colleges DO require it. Check with your coordinator if unsure. Complete the Health Screening form once upon entry to the Health Science program. Can be signed by RN, MD, DO, PA, ARNP. The form link is in this Health Sciences student section.