



Everyone who volunteers at Seattle Children's must be screened for tuberculosis (TB) prior to starting their service and once each year. All volunteers must provide proof of TB test results on the form called "Seattle Children's Tuberculosis (TB) Screening and Immunization Record." This form is available to download from our website and is also available at the Volunteer Office. New/Prospective volunteers are responsible for the cost of their initial screening. Seattle Children's will provide the yearly screening free of charge.

What is tuberculosis testing?

There are two ways you can be screened for tuberculosis:

1. The tuberculin skin test (TST) is done by injecting a small amount of a liquid called PPD (purified protein derivative) under the top layer of skin. The injection is placed on the inside of your lower arm. People who have been infected with TB in the past will react to the PPD by getting a red, raised or itchy spot where the injection was placed. People who have received BCG vaccine may have a similar reaction, but it doesn't necessarily indicate the screening test is positive for TB.
2. The other kind of TB testing is a blood test called Quantiferon Gold. The blood tests identify the presence of Mycobacterium tuberculosis infection by measuring the immune response to the TB bacteria in whole blood. Blood is collected by a health care provider and sent to a laboratory for processing. Only one visit is required to draw blood for the test.

Even if you have received BCG vaccine, you must still be screened.

What steps do I follow for TB screening to meet the requirements for joining the volunteer team?

The steps you need to follow depend on your past:

If you have not had a TB test in the past year:

Option 1. You will need to go for 2 TB skin tests. This means getting the PPD injection and returning to the healthcare provider between 48 and 72 hours later to have it read and documented. Then you go for a **second** injection between 7 and 20 days after the first one. You will need to have the second test read 48 to 72 hours later and documented as well.

Option 2. A Quantiferon Gold blood test.

If you have had a TB skin test within the past year:

If you can provide proof of this testing, you will only need 1 TB skin test. This means getting the PPD injection and returning to the healthcare provider between 48 and 72 hours later to have it read and documented. Proof of your previous test must include the date of the injection, the date the test was read and the size of the reaction (measurement of induration in mm).

If you had TB skin testing in the past twelve months and have also had a TB skin test within the last 30 days - OR you have proof of Quantiferon Gold blood test results within the past 30 days:

You will not need another test until next year.

If you have had a positive TB screening test in the past:

You will not need to be tested for TB if you can provide documentation from a healthcare provider of:

- Your positive TB skin test date and measurement of induration **OR** documentation of a Quantiferon Gold blood test.
- A report of your most recent chest x-ray taken after the positive TB screening test.
- Any documentation of antibiotic treatment following your positive TB test.

This must be completed before you can begin volunteering. If cleared, you will complete a form called "Annual Tuberculosis Symptom Surveillance Record." This form will be provided to you by Volunteer Services.

Where can I go for TB testing?

TB testing can be done by your healthcare provider, US HealthWorks, HealthForce or some college health centers. We have a list of places you can get tested for TB on our website. Visit www.seattlechildrens.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/requirements.

Please note: The Quantiferon Gold blood test is not available at these locations.

What will I need to do next year if my TB test result was negative?

Seattle Children's will provide **annual** TB screening for volunteers identified by the Volunteer Office as having completed a full year of volunteering at SCH. Our standard screening method is the Quantiferon Gold Blood test. Skin Tests can be made available by appointment with our Occupational Health Services.

It is your responsibility to make sure your TB screening test is completed each year, if you volunteer at the main campus at least 12 times per year. If your initial screening is completed in the months between October 1 and April 30, you will be due for annual screening the following October 1-December 31st. If your initial screening is completed in the months between May 1 and September 30, you will not be due until the October of the next year. Volunteer Services will provide you with a reminder when your annual screening is due.

You may pick up a Seattle Children's Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Form from the Volunteer Services office or on the website before getting your annual screening test if you will have the screening performed outside of Children's. This form needs to be completed and returned to the Volunteer Office.

If you have your annual screening performed by Occupational Health Services, they will provide the documentation to the Volunteer Office.

What will I need to do next year if my TB test result is positive?

You will need to complete an Annual Tuberculosis Symptom Surveillance Record each year. It must be completed and turned in on or before the date you completed the record last year. Volunteer Services will send you the form when your annual update is due.

All documentation must be turned in to the Volunteer Office. We will review all of your documentation to make sure all requirements are met and then contact you within a few days to establish your training date and your first day of volunteer service.