

The Seven Hills School Tuberculosis Screening Protocol

The following policy is based on recommendations from the Hamilton County Public Health TB Control Unit and the Ohio Revised Code 3701.15.

TB screening for Students/Employees

1. All newly enrolled/hired foreign-born students/employees who have been in the USA for five years or less must provide documented evidence of having a negative Mantoux Test 5 TU PPD (which is a skin test) or a negative QuantiFERON blood test, within 90 days of their first day of enrollment/employment at TSHS.
2. For a period of no more than 30 days, pending the outcome of these TB screening tests, a student may begin attendance if documentation of a negative screening for TB symptoms is verified by a licensed physician or nurse (Hamilton County Public Health has provided a tool for screening of symptoms, if needed).
3. If the TB skin test or QuantiFERON test is positive, the student/employee may remain in school but must provide verification of a normal chest x-ray and physician verification, in writing, of the absence of communicable tuberculosis within 90 days of the first day as an enrolled student or employee at TSHS.
4. At the discretion of the School Nurse, a student may be removed from school and asked to provide documentation of a physician's TB evaluation, with or without a positive TB skin or blood test.
5. Retesting is not required unless the student/employee returns to a high-risk setting, such as a homeless shelter, prison, or travel in a high risk country (as specified by Hamilton county and the World Health Organization), for at least one week. - **High Risk TB Countries** - Angola, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, Central African Republic, China, Congo, DPR Korea, DR Congo, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Lesotho, Liberia, Namibia, Kenya, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russian Federation Sierra Leone, South Africa, Thailand, UR Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.
6. Any student/employee with a documented history of tuberculosis, a positive PPD or positive QuantiFERON blood test and a normal chest x-ray, must provide documented proof of the absence of TB symptoms, as determined by symptom screening by a licensed physician. Repeated chest x-rays are not required, if the physician determines that there is an absence of symptoms of tuberculosis.
7. Students/employees who travel to high-risk countries, as defined by World Health Organization Global TB Control, in a non-tourist capacity, such as staying with a local family, for at least one week, must provide documented evidence of having a negative Mantoux 5 TU PPD test or negative QuantiFERON test, in no less than 60 days but no more than 90 days after their return from that setting. The TB screening is required if the students/employees have spent most of their time interacting with the inhabitants of that country for at least seven days. The TB screening is also required if the students/employees have slept in facilities where the inhabitants of the foreign country also sleep.

