

Tuberculosis Requirements and Testing Information

TB testing may be referred to as Purified Protein Derivative (PPD), Mantoux, Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) Test, Tuberculosis Skin Test (TST), or Tine Test (this method of testing is no longer recommended due to its lack of accuracy).

Testing of School Students and Staff

The entire description of the TB testing requirements for schools is located in 28 PA Code, Chapter 23. Information for school students can be found in [Section 23.9](#) and staff in [Section 23.44](#).

School Staff Requirements

The Pennsylvania Public School Code, Section 1418(b) requires that school personnel be tested for TB. School personnel to be tested include employees and independent contractors who provide direct services to students on behalf of a school, including but not limited to teachers, nurses, administrators, physicians, dentists, dental hygienists, custodians, janitors, cooks, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, librarians, psychologists, audiologists and counselors, and student teachers and volunteers. The Department of Health defines "direct services" as those persons in direct contact with students 10 or more hours/week. The law does not contain a provision to allow modifications for school staff/volunteers. They must be tested "prior to working for the school."

The tuberculin test shall be performed by the school physician, or by a physician of the employee's choice. The person shall provide to the school a form that shows the TB test was administered within three months prior to the data the school receives the form. School personnel who have a documented nonsignificant tuberculin test are not required to have further tests unless they are exposed to a case of active TB or are directed otherwise by the Secretary of Health to have an additional test.

ETown Education Department

- Schedule an appointment with a family doctor or preferred health care provider.
- Contact the Education Department office or Student Health Services for additional testing resources.
- This test is administered one day and evaluated 48-72 hours after administration. Be aware of this when making an appointment.
- Print a Tuberculosis Test Form and take it with you to the first TB appointment.
- Submit PDF copies of the TB Test Form to the Education Office at the following address: gliotr@etown.edu.