

PRE-EMPLOYMENT TUBERCULOSIS (TB) SCREENING & TESTING FOR PRESCHOOL AND SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE STAFF GUIDANCE

Background:

Substitute House Bill 210 of the 133rd General Assembly Section 3301.53 now requires tuberculosis (TB) testing before employment in a preschool or school age childcare program, if an applicant meets the criteria outlined below. The Ohio Revised Code law is available [here](#) at 3301.531.

Before employing a person as a staff member, each program is to have TB test documentation on file for each individual who meets both criteria described below:

- Resided in a country identified by the world health organization (WHO) as having a high burden of tuberculosis. A current list of identified high burden countries (HBC) for TB can be found on page 30 in the most current [Global Tuberculosis World Health Organization Report](#)
- Arrived in the United States within the five years immediately preceding the date of application for employment.

The TB test must be either a two-step Mantoux tuberculin skin test or a blood assay.

Future course of action determined by the results of the TB test are as follows:

If the result of any tuberculosis test is negative	The program may employ the person.
If the result of any tuberculosis test performed is positive	Prior to employment, the program is to require the person to undergo additional testing for tuberculosis.
If additional testing indicates active tuberculosis	Until the county or district tuberculosis control unit provides documentation that the person is no longer infectious, the program is not to employ the person or, if employed, the center is not to allow the person to be physically present at the program's location.
If additional testing indicates latent tuberculosis	<p>Until the person submits to the program evidence that the person is receiving treatment as prescribed by a licensed health professional, the program is to not employ the person or, if employed, the program shall not allow the person to be physically present at the program's location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once the person submits to the program evidence of a tuberculosis treatment regimen, the program may employ the person and allow the person to be physically present at the program's location. • Evidence must consist of a written statement to that effect signed by a representative of the tuberculosis control unit that is overseeing the person's treatment.

Licensed health professionals that meet the qualifications to prescribe TB treatment include the following: licensed physicians, licensed physician assistants, certified nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists.

Programs may check with their local board of county commissioners to locate the county TB control unit.

Implementation:

The Office of Early Learning and School Readiness will monitor and assess compliance with these requirements, which were effective April 12, 2021.

Revised sample Form:

The "Employee Medical Statement " posted on the [Preschool program licensing](#) and the [School age child care program licensing](#) webpages has been revised to include a section for the health care provider to document that an individual has been screened for tuberculosis (TB), and tested, if required, as a result of the screening.

Questions:

Please email oesr.licensing@education.ohio.gov if you have any questions about the new policy.