

Questions and Answers About Tuberculosis Screening and Testing

What is Tuberculosis (TB)?

TB is a bacterial infection. It mainly affects the lungs.

What is the difference between TB screening and TB testing?

TB screening means that we are assessing your risk factor(s) for TB. This is done by having each new student complete the online TB screening survey. The link to the online survey will be emailed to you.

TB testing is needed if a student has completed the TB screening survey *and* he/she has been contacted by Student Health Services to make an appointment for a TB test.

How do I know if I am required to have a TB test?

You will receive an email from Student Health Services if you are required by the university to have a TB test.

What is the due date to complete TB screening and/or testing?

Due dates will be listed in your email from Student Health Services.

I had a TB test before arriving at The University of Akron. Do I need to take another test?

If your TB test was not done in the United States, we cannot accept it. You will need to have another TB test at Student Health Services.

If you had a TB test done in the United States less than 6 months ago, please email the results to healthservices@uakron.edu. A staff member will review the results. If you need another TB test, the staff member will email you.

How do I make an appointment for the TB test?

Students may call 330-972-7808 or email healthservices@uakron.edu to schedule an appointment.

Please arrive at the time of your scheduled appointment. You may be asked to reschedule your appointment if you arrive past your appointment time.

Where is Student Health Services located?

Suite 260 inside the Student Recreation and Wellness Center on campus

How is the TB test performed?

The test is a small blood sample. You may eat and drink as normal before your test.

How much does the TB test cost?

The cost of the test and any associated charges will be submitted to your health insurance plan. The cost varies depending on the type of health insurance plan you have and the coverage details of the plan. You should contact your health insurance company if you have any questions about the cost. Student Health Services is not responsible for any costs not paid by your insurance company.

Do I need to bring anything to my appointment?

Please bring a photo ID (identification) card, such as your Zip card, to the appointment.

If you do not have the university's student health insurance, you must bring your health insurance card to your appointment.

How can I get the results of my TB test?

The results will be sent to your University of Akron email.

What happens if I have a positive TB test?

A positive blood test does not mean that you have an active TB infection. If you test positive, you will receive an email from Student Health Services asking you to schedule an appointment. At the appointment, you will meet with a healthcare provider to discuss the positive result. We will answer any questions you may have. We will give you an order for a chest x-ray.

A chest x-ray (also called a radiograph) is a medical procedure that takes pictures of the inside of your lungs. It is a safe and painless procedure. The x-ray will determine if you have Latent TB or Active TB. Latent TB means that the TB bacteria is lying dormant, or "sleeping," in your body. It does not cause symptoms and cannot be spread to other people. Active TB means that the TB bacteria have caused an infection. People with Active TB have symptoms and can spread the infection to other people.

It is **required** that any student with a positive TB test has a chest x-ray.

What happens if I do not complete the TB screening survey, the TB test (if needed), and/or the chest x-ray (if needed)?

A medical hold will be placed on your student account if you do not complete any part of TB screening and testing by the due date(s). You will not be able to register for classes for the next semester with a hold on your student account. The hold will be removed after you have completed all TB requirements.