

TB Test Information for OU-Tulsa Students

Baseline TB tests are required upon matriculation and an annual TB test is required thereafter for all OUHSC students. Other non-HSC programs may require students to obtain baseline and/or annual TB tests as well. TB tests are valid for 12 months from the date they are interpreted/read. Students are responsible for ensuring that their annual TB test does not expire. *Students with a history of either a positive TB Skin Test or a positive TB blood test must contact OU-Tulsa Student Health for further assessment and instruction regarding TB clearance.*

There are two different types of TB tests:

1. **TB Skin Test (a/k/a PPD, TST)** – This is the traditional form of TB testing. Tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD) is administered (“placed”) under the skin of the forearm. The results are interpreted (“read”) within 48-72 hours from the time the skin test was placed.

Please note: there are two TB skin test processes:

- **Two-Step TB Skin Test** – Required either as the baseline TB test upon matriculation or if the Annual TB Skin Test has expired. The process for a Two-Step TB test is as follows:
 - a. **Step 1 (TB Test #1):**
 - i. The first TB skin test is administered.
 - ii. The student is required to return to the same clinic where the test was administered within 48-72 hours to have the results read/documented.
 - iii. Failure to return within the 48-72 hour time frame will negate the test and the student will be required to repeat the test.
 - b. **Step 2 (TB Test #2):**
 - i. The second TB skin test is administered within 7 to 21 days from the date the first TB test was **read** (no exceptions).
 - ii. The student is required to return to the same clinic where the test was administered within 48-72 hours to have the results read/documented.
 - iii. Failure to have the second TB test placed within the 7 to 21 day time frame or failure to return within the 48-72 hour time frame to have the test read/documented will negate both tests and the student will be required to repeat the Two-Step TB Skin Test process.
- **Annual TB Skin Test** – Required each year after obtaining a baseline TB Skin Test. Must be administered within 12 months from the date the last TB test was read/interpreted (no exceptions). Allowing the Annual TB Skin Test to expire will require repeating the Two-Step TB Skin Test or obtaining the TB blood test. The process for an Annual TB skin test is as follows:
 - a. The TB Skin Test is administered.
 - b. The student is required to return to the same clinic where the test was administered within 48-72 hours to have the results read/documented.
 - c. Failure to return within the 48-72 hour time frame will negate the test and the student will be required to repeat the test.

2. **TB Blood Test (a/k/a IGRA, Quantiferon, T-Spot, TB-Gold)** – This is a blood test used to detect if a person has the bacteria that causes TB.

- Meets the requirements for baseline and annual TB testing. It can be done in lieu of the Two-Step TB Skin Test or the Annual TB Skin Test.
- This is a lab test (i.e., “blood work”). It requires an order from a health care provider. Results are sent to the provider who orders the test. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure they receive a copy of the TB blood test lab report to upload to Complio or submit to their program.
- More convenient and more reliable than the TB Skin Test.
- Can be expensive
 - Some insurance plans will cover the cost of a TB blood test but others will not.
 - Students can obtain a TB blood test at OU-Tulsa Student Health for \$50 (cash/check only).