



HIM PPE Immunizations & Insurance Guide

In order for students to go out to their clinical sites, they need active medical insurance and to ensure that they have their immunizations up-to-date in the Certified Background Student Immunization Tracker. You should have already completed your background check requirement through them back in HIM 110....now it's time to do the immunizations.

*When you start your class, you'll be required to set up your CertifiedProfile account. This is where you'll upload your proof of immunizations. Again, specific instructions will be made available in the classroom when it opens. However, don't wait until then to begin the process as you won't be able to start your internship until every immunization is uploaded. It is imperative that you begin the process **NOW**.*

DO NOT EMAIL PROOF OF IMMUNIZATIONS TO YOUR INSTRUCTOR! THESE MUST BE UPLOADED INTO CERTIFIED BACKGROUND.

Required Immunizations List

The specific immunizations for the HIM PPE experience include:

- 1. Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)**
- 2. Varicella (Chicken Pox)**
- 3. Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis (Tdap)*
 - o There must be documentation of a Tdap booster within the past 10 years.*
- 4. Initial TB 2-step (1-3 weeks apart) OR QuantiFERON Gold Blood Test***
 - o If positive results, you must provide a clear Chest X-Ray & symptom's check*
 - o An annual PPD (current year) can be accepted in lieu of the 2-step provided you can show that you have completed PPDs annually (every 12-months) from the point you had a 2-step.*
- 5. Influenza (current season)*

Optional Immunizations List

These immunizations are optional but HIGHLY encouraged as they will help protect you. You can opt out of these by submitted the appropriate facility-specific waiver.

- 1. Hepatitis B Series**
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**Positive Antibody Titer can be a substitution for the MMR (all three), Varicella and Hep B vaccinations for proof of immunity. You must submit a lab report. Check with your healthcare provider if you are uncertain whether you should get a titer or a vaccination.*

***QuantiFERON is accepted by most but not ALL clinical sites (e.g. MultiCare Health System). It is a good idea to go with the TB 2-Step just in case.*

Immunization Resources

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has a great webpage dedicated to vaccines (<http://www.vaccines.gov/>). We encourage you to consult with your local health department to locate resources on where to go to get your immunizations taken care of.

Here are some local Puget Sound resources:

- [Washington State Department of Health](#)
- [Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department](#)
- [King County Health Department](#)
- [Kitsap Public Health District](#)
- [Thurston County Immunization Program](#)

Estimated Immunization Costs

Most private health insurance plans cover the cost of recommended vaccines. Check with your insurance provider for details of coverage. Students getting both the required and optional immunizations should expect to pay around \$400-575 if you are paying out of pocket (not using insurance). I would shop around those as the prices vary significantly depending on where you go. I did a little research for you and here are the prices for the various vaccines:

Type	MultiCare Immunization Clinic (Puyallup)	Franciscan Occupational Health (Tacoma)	US Health Works (Tacoma)	Albertson's Pharmacy (Tacoma)	Misc Notes
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)*	\$120 vaccine No titers	\$67 \$40 titer available	\$131 + nurse fee \$40 titer available + fee	Not offered	Free through TPCHD
Varicela (Chicken Pox)*	\$120 No titers	\$120 \$40 titer available	\$173 + nurse fee \$40 titer available + fee	Not offered	Free through TPCHD
Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis (TDaP)	\$65	\$65	\$90 + nurse fee	\$54.99	The MultiCare Immunization Clinic offers free TDaP if you are being exposed to children
Initial TB 2-step	\$60	\$25 each	\$40 each + nurse fee	Not offered	The MultiCare Immunization Clinic offers a cash discount of \$40
Influenza	\$30	\$25	\$25	\$29.99	
Hepatitis B Series (3-shot series)	\$180 (\$60/shot) No titers	\$75 (\$25/shot) \$40 titer available	\$134+ nurse fee \$40 titer available + fee	\$285 (\$95/shot)	Free through TPCHD

Immunization Financial Help

We realize that the immunization process is burdensome for those without adequate health insurance coverage. As such, we've identified some resources which may help you. This information was found through the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department and some simple Google searching. If you live outside of the area, I would give your local health department a call to see if they have any similar programs.

- [Free/Low Cost Whooping Cough Vaccine for Adults](#)
- [How to Pay \(Vaccines.gov\)](#)
- [MyRXCare \(Albertsons\)](#)
- [United Way: Where to Turn in Tough Times](#)
- [Washington State Free Clinics](#)

I know that with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department (TPCHD) is offering a lot of free immunizations for those uninsured or underinsured.

Immunization Details

The next 2-pages contain detailed information about the immunizations and the process/timeline involved (they do vary based on the immunization). This can be accessed electronically by clicking [here](#).

Medical Insurance Requirement

Students must provide proof of health insurance in order to do their HIM internships. The student may use documentation from their health plan such as insurance card, policy statement, etc. This information must be uploaded into Immunization Tracker prior to participating in the PPE.

If the student does not have health insurance health insurance may be purchased through a separate entity that TCC works with. You may contact the insurance contractor at the following website: [Summit America](#)

General coverage for a student can range from \$500 per quarter for one individual, to \$2,842 per quarter for a student, their spouse, and their children. The injury-only plan can range in cost from \$39 for one student, to \$190 for the student, their spouse, and children.

In addition to coverage through TCC, you can also check the [Washington Health Benefit Exchange website](#) to see if you're eligible for lower costs on private insurance or Medicaid. Remember that under the Affordable Care Act, beginning in 2014, many individuals and families will be eligible to receive subsidized coverage in the Exchange if they are not eligible for Medicare/Medicaid and are not offered affordable coverage through their employer.

FREE Immunizations

For Uninsured or Underinsured Adults

Age 19 and up • Call to confirm availability

Immunizations offered: Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, HPV (Human Papillomavirus), MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), Pneumonia Polysaccharide, Varicella, Zoster (Shingles), Meningococcal

MultiCare Health System at South Hill Mall

Inside near Old Country Buffet and Charming Charley's
500 South Meridian, Puyallup
(253) 403-1761

Community Health Care Eastside Medical Clinic

1708 East 44th Street, Tacoma
(253) 471-4553

Sea Mar Tacoma Medical Center

2121 South 19th Street, Tacoma
(253) 280-9803

Franciscan Health System

1717 South J Street, Suite 30, Tacoma
(253) 426-6938

Walgreens

11509 Canyon Road East, Puyallup
(253) 539-4165

For All Children

Age 18 and below • Bring you child's immunization record

Most childhood immunizations offered

MultiCare Health System at South Hill Mall

Inside near Old Country Buffet and Charming Charley's
500 South Meridian, Puyallup
(253) 403-1761

Childcare Express at MultiCare Medical Park

4545 Point Fosdick Drive, Gig Harbor
(253) 530-8260

Franciscan Health System Parkland

Inside WIC Office
121 132nd Street South, Parkland
(253) 531-2460

Franciscan Health System Lakewood

Inside WIC Office
11216 Bridgeport Way Southwest, Lakewood
(253) 588-9597



TUBERCULOSIS SCREENING

A **negative 2-step TB skin test result** is required within the last 12 months

(If a negative two step TB test was completed several years in the past and there is documentation of negative yearly annual (*no longer than one year from last placement*) TB skin tests thereafter, a two step is not required. It is required that the file contains proof of original negative two step and the negative annual tests thereafter).

OR

Negative QuantiFERON (QFT) TB Gold – (single IGRA - interferon gamma release assay) blood test result within the last 12 months.

If history of positive TB test:

If history of a positive TB skin test or IGRA, No further skin tests are required.

Additional requirements for a positive TB test:

- A negative chest x-ray report **must** be on file that specifically addresses any possible TB disease.
- Complete an annual TB symptom questionnaire that is negative (see website). A negative questionnaire does not have any positive symptoms that are specific to TB.
(Example: night sweats from menopause would not count as a positive symptom. It is only when it may result from the possibility from TB. If any symptoms are positive, they must immediately see their provider and be removed from clinical site until a medical clearance note has been received and reviewed by facility. Contact facility for questions).
- Medical clearance note is required from provider for **ALL** positive tests; it also includes any medical treatment.

- *If history of BCG vaccine and negative QuantiFERON is considered an acceptable negative result.*
- *If history of positive QuantiFERON follow steps for positive TB test.*

Chest X-Rays are NOT accepted as substitutions for TB testing.

Additional information per CDC guidelines

Other names for a TB tests are **PPD** or Mantoux tuberculin skin test (**TST**)

Booster Phenomenon and 2 Step TB TEST- Some people infected with M. tuberculosis may have a negative reaction to a single TST if many years have passed since they became infected. They may have a positive reaction to a subsequent TST because the initial test stimulates their ability to react to the test. This is commonly referred to as the “booster phenomenon” and may incorrectly be interpreted as a skin test conversion (going from negative to positive from a recent infection). For this reason, the “two-step method” is recommended at the time of initial testing for individuals who may be tested periodically (e.g., health care workers) because it distinguishes a boosted reaction (caused by TB infection that occurred many years before the skin test) from a reaction caused by recent infection.

If the first TST result in the two-step baseline testing is positive, consider the person infected and evaluate and treat the person accordingly. If the first test result is negative, the TST should be repeated in 1–3 weeks. If the second test result is positive, consider the person infected and evaluate and treat the person accordingly; if both steps are negative, consider the person uninfected and classify the TST as negative at baseline testing.

BCG – bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG), a vaccine for TB disease that is used in many countries but rarely used in the United States; may cause a false-positive reaction to the TST but does not affect QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test (QFT-G) results.

MMR MEASLES (RUBEOLA); MUMPS; and RUBELLA (GERMAN MEASLES)

MEASLES (RUBEOLA): TWO doses of measles-containing vaccine (Measles; Measles-Rubella; or Measles-Mumps-Rubella) *regardless of birthdate*, OR a rubeola positive antibody titer. The vaccine doses must have been received on or after 12 months of age and at least one full month apart.

MUMPS: TWO doses of mumps-containing vaccine regardless of birthdate OR a mumps positive antibody titer. The vaccine doses must have been received on or after the age of 12 months and at least one full month apart.

RUBELLA (GERMAN MEASLES): Two doses of rubella-containing vaccine regardless of birthdate OR a rubella positive antibody titer. The vaccine doses must have been received on or after the age of 12 months and at least one full month apart.

- *Sign declination for medical contraindication or continued negative titer(s) after both required shots have been received.*
- *If outbreak occurs they will not be allowed on clinical site up to 21 days after known outbreak*

VARICELLA

TWO doses of VARICELLA-containing vaccine given on or after 12 months of age and at least one full month apart OR a positive varicella antibody titer.

History of disease is NOT an acceptable for this requirement.

- *Sign declination for medical contraindication or continued negative titer after both required shots have been received.*
- *If outbreak occurs they will not be allowed on clinical site up to 21 days after known outbreak*

HEPATITIS B

THREE doses of Hep B vaccine given over a minimum of 6 months (must be given minimally at 0, 1 and 6 months)

AND

A positive HBsAb titer (Hepatitis B surface antibody).

(Those who have started the series should indicate if they are "in process". If in process indicate shot dates received and add further documentation of doses and titer results as available).

If HBsAb titer is negative: (Hepatitis B surface antibody)

REPEAT the series (#4, #5, #6)

Redraw HBsAb titer after 6-8 weeks of series completion– *if positive titer - requirement is met.*

**if second negative titer they would be considered a non-responder and should consult their provider.*

- *Sign waiver only if signing declination of series. (Series completion is highly recommended)*

If history of Hepatitis B disease or a positive HBsAg (Hepatitis B surface antigen) it is required to show proof of a personal counseling visit with a provider about their carrier status. Provider recommendations must be followed.

TETANUS-DIPHTHERIA-PERTUSSIS (Tdap)

Tdap required once

Td required every 10 years after Tdap

NOTE: Td is a different vaccine, and does not substitute for Tdap. Titers are NOT an acceptable alternative for Tdap vaccine.

- *Sign declination for medical contraindication. If outbreak occurs, they will need clearance by facility to return to clinical site.*