



# SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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CITY COLLEGE | MESA COLLEGE | MIRAMAR COLLEGE | CONTINUING EDUCATION

*Human Resources*

*Employment 619-388-6579*

## **Tuberculosis (TB) Testing Requirement**

### **1. New hire requirements:**

- A.** Per California Education Code § 87408.6, each new employee is required to provide proof of Tuberculosis (TB) clearance dated within the past 60 days.
- B.** A person who transfers from another public education employer must provide proof of TB clearance dated within the past four (4) years. This proof must be provided by the previous employer on a document that signifies the employer (e.g. letterhead or official form).
- C.** A person who has previously experienced a positive Tuberculosis Skin Test (TST) or a positive Tuberculosis Blood Test (TBT) followed by a chest x-ray, must provide a statement of this signed by a treating medical provider. The date for the x-ray must be within 12 months prior to the new employee's start date. This evidence will remain on file and the employee will no longer be required to provide proof of TB clearance every four (4) years, unless future TB-related health conditions occur. However, every four (4) years, each employee will be required to complete a Symptom Review Questionnaire with their medical provider to signify clearance from TB.

### **2. Current employee requirements:**

- A.** Each current employee will be required to provide proof of TB clearance once every four (4) years. This may be the result of the TST or TBT test.
- B.** If employee's previous proof of TB clearance was a chest x-ray (which must be accompanied by physician's statement of the previous positive TBT or TST which prompted a chest x-ray), then that will remain on file and the employee is no longer required to provide proof every four (4) years, unless future TB-related health conditions occur. However, every four (4) years each employee will be required to complete a Symptom Review Questionnaire with their medical provider to signify clearance from TB.

### **3. Tuberculosis Skin Test (TST) – skin test applied, then must be checked within 48-72 hours to be considered a valid result.**

- A.** If results are negative – cleared for hire.
- B.** If results are positive – an x-ray of the lungs is needed to receive clearance before hire.

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1. Although there is no problem repeating the TST, if found positive once then it will continue to present a positive reading in the future.
  
- 4. Tuberculosis Blood Text (TBT) – blood test taken in one visit.**
  - A. If results are negative – cleared for hire.
  - B. If results are positive – an x-ray of the lungs is needed to receive clearance before hire.
    1. Although there is no problem repeating the TBT, if found positive once then it may continue to present a positive reading in the future.
    2. Blood tests are recommended for:
      - a. Individuals who have received the TB vaccine
      - b. Individuals who would be unable to return for the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the 2-part TST test.
  
- 5. X-ray – if a TST or TBT yields positive results, then an x-ray of the lungs is necessary to determine if cleared of TB.**
  - A. Due to the reasons noted above, if employee’s previous proof of TB Clearance was a chest x-ray accompanied by a physician’s statement of the previous positive TBT or TST which prompted a chest x-ray, then that will remain on file and the employee is no longer required to provide proof, unless future TB-related health conditions occur. However, every four (4) years, each employee will be required to complete a Symptom Review Questionnaire with their medical provider to signify clearance from TB.

**Resources:**

- California Education Code § 87408.6
  - SDCCD AP 4260.3
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
  - Sharp Healthcare, Robert Power, MD
  - Sharp Healthcare, Kathlyn Ignacio, MD
  - Sharp Healthcare website – Tuberculosis Testing
  - UCLA Occupational Health Services website
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