

TB Guidelines

The Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning has been informed that some local health departments have closed their in-person clinical services during COVID-19, which includes TB testing services for employment. As a reminder child care programs are required to have a TB screening for all employees/volunteers and individuals that may reside in a home before they begin employment or reside in the home. In order to meet your requirement regarding TB testing during this time child care programs should do the following:

1. Attempt to get the TB screening done.
2. Add the following additional questions to your hiring process to determine if the caregiver may be at high risk for TB. Here is a link to an easy to follow questionnaire.

<https://www.cdc.gov/tb/topic/infectioncontrol/pdf/healthCareSettings-assessment.pdf>

- a. Have you been a temporary or permanent residence of ≥ 1 month in a country with a high TB rate?
**Any country other than the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and those in Northern Europe or Western Europe.*
- b. Are you someone with a current or planned immunosuppression?
**Including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, organ transplant recipient, treatment with a TNF-alpha antagonist (e.g., infliximab, etanercept, or other), chronic steroids (equivalent of prednisone ≥ 15 mg/day for ≥ 1 month) or other immunosuppressive medication.*
- c. Have you had close contact with someone who has had infectious TB disease since the last TB test?

If the caregiver answers yes to any of these questions then they need to get a test done before beginning work.

3. If the program is unable to get the test and the caregiver answered no to these questions then the caregiver could begin employment and would have 60 days to get the TB test completed.

For those individuals that are required to have an annual TB test the provider should require the employee to fill out this same questioner and follow the same guidance stated above.

Providers shall still maintain documentation of an annual health assessment by a physician reflecting the results of symptom screening for TB for those staff and household members who has a history of latent or active tuberculosis.

For any questions regarding this process please contact your licensing consultant or the OECOSL Nurse Consultant at 317-503-6519.