



Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Medical Department
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Medical Report Form: Frequently Asked Questions

Q Where can I get the Student Medical Report form?

A To download a PDF file of the Student Medical Report:

- Log on to the MIT Medical web site: <http://web.mit.edu/medical>.
- Click How-To Guide on the left menu bar.
- Click Forms on the left menu within the How-To Guide section.
- Scroll down and choose the form that corresponds to your student status.

If you don't have access to the Internet, please contact MIT Medical's Health Screening service at 617-253-7051, by fax at 617- 253-4121, or by email medrpt@med.mit.edu.

Q Who must complete the Medical Report?

A All incoming male and female undergraduate, transfer, graduate, and re-admitted students (including military personnel), regardless of age, must complete the medical report.

Q I have waived the Extended MIT Hospital Insurance. Do I still have to complete the Medical Report?

A Yes. All entering students must complete a Medical Report no matter which health insurance they have.

Q What should I do if my physician doesn't speak English?

A You will need to have the information on the Medical Report and all your records translated into English.

Q Can I fax the Medical Report?

A Yes, you can. Keep the original for your records after faxing it to 617-253-4121. If the fax line is busy, please keep trying.

Q Can I scan my immunization records and send them attached to an e-mail?

A No, email isn't a secure way of sending documents, and we take the confidentiality of your medical information very seriously.

Q What happens if I do not meet the Medical Report deadline?

A Your registration will be placed on hold until we receive your completed Medical Report.

Q What if I am accepted to MIT after the Medical Report deadline?

A You have six weeks from the date of your acceptance letter to submit your Medical Report. Please keep your acceptance letter in case we have any Questions.

Q Do I have to pay for my pre-entry physical examination and required immunizations, or are they covered by the MIT Student Health Plan?

A Yes, you must pay for them. The pre-entry physical examination, immunizations, and tests are not covered by the MIT Student Medical Plan or MIT Student Extended Insurance Plan.

Q I had a physical examination two years ago. Is this acceptable?

A No. You must have a physical examination within the 12 months prior to your MIT registration date.

Q Who should sign the physical examination page of the Student Medical Report?

A The physician or nurse practitioner who gave you the physical examination must sign and date the bottom of the physical examination page.

Q What immunizations are necessary?

A Please refer to the Medical Report form for a complete list and instructions. You'll find specific requirements for measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, diphtheria, hepatitis B, and meningococcal, as well as a recommendation for varicella (chicken pox).

Q What should I do if my immunization records are lost or unavailable?

A You could have special blood tests called IgG titres to show immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella, a tetanus diphtheria booster, a Mantoux TB test for tuberculosis, and a hepatitis B vaccine. Please refer to the Medical Report for complete instructions.

Q My doctor says I only need one measles immunization. Is this true?

A Both MIT and Massachusetts law require documented evidence of two measles immunizations, both administered after January 1, 1968, at least one month apart, and after your first birthday.

Q Why do I need to have 2 mumps vaccines?

A In response to an outbreak of Mumps on several college campuses in 2006, the Center for Disease Control and the American College Health Association have highly recommended that students entering college have proof of 2 doses of a mumps vaccine or MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) or proof of immunity through blood testing. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health have also recommended this as a way to decrease the risk of mumps among the students and others in the community in which they reside.

Q What is the difference between the Td (Tetanus) and the Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccines?

A The Td vaccine protects you against getting tetanus and diphtheria alone. The Tdap vaccine will not only protect you from those 2 diseases but also from getting pertussis. As a child you were most likely immunized for pertussis. That immunity wears out over time and by time you are college age, you most likely are no longer immune to pertussis. Pertussis is a highly contagious respiratory illness that leads to other more serious illness.

Q In my country, a rubella immunization is required of females only. Is this true for MIT, too?

A Rubella immunity is required of all male and female MIT students. Regardless of your gender, you must have a rubella immunization or a blood titre that proves immunity.

Q Will you accept my mother's word that I was immunized for measles, mumps, and rubella?

A While your parents may be a reliable source of knowledge about your childhood health, we do require medically documented proof of immunity. Blood titres can also be used to prove immunity.

Q What does "documented proof" of immunity mean?

A Documented proof is a written record of your immunization dates provided by a high school, university, college, or physician's office.

Q My blood titre was equivocal or borderline. Do I need another immunization?

A Yes, because we can't accept borderline immunity. You will need another immunization to booster your immunity.

Q Does everyone have to have a TB test?

A No. TB tests are required for students who are identified as at a higher risk. Please see the Medical Report Form for instruction on who needs TB testing.

Q Does it matter what kind of TB test I have?

A If you are designated as needing a TB test, only an intermediate PPD tuberculin 5 T.U. (Mantoux TB test) or a QuantiFERON-TB Gold assay blood test are acceptable. We can't accept multiple puncture tests, such as tine, Heaf, Monovac, and so on.

Q How should the PPD TB test reaction be documented?

A TB test reaction must be documented in millimeters and signed by a physician or nurse. The reaction must be read within 48 to 72 hours after the test is administered. We cannot accept a simple reading of positive or negative.

Q I have received BCG in the past. Do I still need a TB test?

A Yes, you still need a TB test if you fall under the high risk group (see the Medical Report Form), unless you had a previous Mantoux TB test that was positive with an indurated reaction of 10mm or greater. In that case, you must have a chest X-Ray within six months of entering MIT.

Q Can I have a chest X-Ray instead of a Mantoux TB test?

A You can only substitute a chest X-Ray if a previous Mantoux TB test was positive with an indurated reaction of 10mm or greater. Otherwise, you must get a TB Mantoux test.

Q I am not able to get a Mantoux TB test in my country. What should I do?

A Please contact MIT Medical's Health Screening service for advice at 617-253-7051, by fax at 617- 253-4121, or by email medrpt@med.mit.edu.

Q Do I need the hepatitis B immunization if I'm married?

A Yes. The hepatitis B immunization is required by law for all newly entering undergraduate, transfer, and graduate students, regardless of age, gender, or marital status.

Q How many shots are there for the hepatitis B immunization?

A Three. The second injection must be administered at least 28 to 60 days after the first injection. The third injection must be administered at least six months after the first injection.

Q Can I receive the hepatitis B shots at MIT Medical?

A You should receive the first two injections before coming to MIT. If you don't have time to complete the third injection at home, you can receive it after you arrive at MIT. Since this is a pre-entry requirement, the fee for the vaccine will not be covered by your MIT Student Health Plan.