

Health Screening & Vaccination Requirements for all nursing programmes

Health Screening

A pre-clinical infectious disease screening is a prerequisite for all new nursing students/ākonga at WITT.

Each student is required to provide evidence of their immunity to the following infectious diseases:

- 1. Hepatitis B – blood test results required**
Your immunity status is ascertained by an antibody positive blood test. Anti-HBs>10 IU/mL.
- 2. Morbilli (Measles) – blood test results or evidence of 2 MMR vaccinations required**
Your immunity status is ascertained by an antibody positive blood test result or proof of 2 MMR vaccinations.
- 3. Varicella (Chicken Pox) – blood test results or evidence from a GP required**
Your immunity status is ascertained by an antibody positive blood test result or evidence of a history of chickenpox.
- 4. Tuberculosis (if required)**
The assessment to determine if a blood test for TB is required is based on birthplace, place of residence, work and travel history.
No pre-placement TB screening is required for those students/ākonga who:
 - Were born and resided in a low prevalence country – as listed in: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/preparing-a-visa-application/medical-info/countries-with-a-low-incidence-of-tb>
 - Have no history of known contact.
 - Have no history of having travelled or worked in a high-risk country ie all countries not included in list in link above.**All other students/ākonga must have a Quantiferon TB Gold blood test.** Students/ākonga who test positive for TB must have a chest x-ray and a medical review to exclude active TB prior to accessing placement.
- 5. Pertussis (Whooping Cough) – evidence of vaccination required**
Te Whatu Ora also strongly recommends student nurses have been vaccinated for Pertussis (Whooping Cough) within the last ten years. Please provide proof of vaccination.

Requesting a Blood Test

Complete the Self Request Form at <https://www.mytests.co.nz/our-tests/> You will need to have your credit/debit card on hand as online payment is required. Cost is approximately \$230 plus \$115 for Quantiferon TB Gold, if required.

- 1. On the 'Our Tests' page, select 'Immunity' on the left-hand side and then select the tests you require from the list below:**
 - Hepatitis B Antibody
 - Hepatitis B Antigen
 - Measles IgG
 - Varicella Zoster IgG
 - Quantiferon TB Gold – if you were in born in, resided, travelled or worked in an at-risk country (see information above)

2. Click 'Checkout' when all your required tests have been selected.
3. Complete patient details. Make sure the 'sent to my email address' option is ticked
4. Click 'Place Order', which will then take you to the payment screen
5. You will receive a confirmation email containing a request form, which you need to print and take with you to the Awanui Labs Collection Centre, 179 Gill Street, New Plymouth.
6. Once you receive all your results from Awanui Labs, please email them, along with your proof of and Pertussis vaccination to healthscreening@witt.ac.nz

Instructions on how to get obtain your Immunisation Record

1. Go to <https://my.health.nz/> and login
2. Go to the Immunisation tab
3. Click on [Email my records](#) button
4. Type in your personal email address
5. Once you have received the email with your Requested Immunisation Records, forward this email to healthscreening@witt.ac.nz

Note: Students who have been vaccinated outside of New Zealand must obtain records from that country and email to healthscreening@witt.ac.nz

Important Notes

- You cannot attend any placements until we have received all your screening results and proof of Pertussis vaccination and you have been cleared for placement. Please note that if you do not have immunity, you may not be allowed access to some clinical placements.
- All costs (including screening, any vaccinations, and GP/health professional visits) are the responsibility of students/ākonga.
- **If your results show that you are not immune to an infectious disease, we strongly recommend vaccination, to protect both you and your future patients.** Evidence of vaccinations should be emailed to healthscreening@witt.ac.nz to be added to your student record.
- Carriers of Hepatitis B must have a medical review including guidance regarding clinical placement.
- Please keep your screening results in a safe place, as placements may request to see them, and you may need them in the future when applying for jobs etc.
- Seasonal influenza vaccinations are strongly recommended.

Completion of the above Health Screening is a requirement for entry into your programme of study, and we strongly recommend you complete these by 26 January 2027, so that your results are available before your programme starts.