



CITY OF HOUSTON

Fire Department

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Mayor

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All Houston Fire Department applicants *shall* submit copies of the following immunization/shot records listed below. Immunizations will be submitted to the HFD Infection Control Office and via email only to hfdinfectioncontrol@houston.tx.gov. All submissions **MUST INCLUDE A COMPLETED COVER SHEET** that has been provided by HFD recruiting. The Infection Control Office processes submissions in the order they are received. Please allow a minimum of 3 business days for reviewing and updating immunizations. Applicants will receive a response via email and/or phone.

Hepatitis B

All applicants must submit a completed Hep B series (usually three vaccines). **All vaccines must be given on a CDC-approved schedule.** Hepatitis B vaccines do **NOT** expire. A positive **QUANTITATIVE** Hepatitis B Surface Antibody Titer is accepted for both Certified and Non –Certified applicants. If the titer is negative, or shows that the applicant is not immune, then appropriate proof of Hep B vaccination is required.

- Hepatitis B Vaccine #1
 Hepatitis B Vaccine #2
 Hepatitis B Vaccine #3

OR

- Positive Quantitative Hepatitis B Surface Antibody Titer (Blood Draw)

Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap)

All applicants must have an adult dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (Tdap) that was given less than 3 years prior to your class start date (start date set by HFD Recruiting).

- Tdap Vaccine

Hepatitis C Antibody Test

All applicants must submit a Hepatitis C Antibody Test. **It does not matter if the test is positive or negative. Do not get a Hepatitis C RNA Test.**

- Hepatitis C Antibody Test

Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)

All applicants must submit proof of immunity to MMR. Applicants can submit proof of two doses or MMR Vaccine, or have a **quantitative** titer (blood draw) to test for immunity. MMR vaccines do **NOT** expire. If the titer is negative, or shows that the applicant is not immune, then proof of two (2) doses of MMR vaccine is required.

- MMR Vaccine #1
 MMR Vaccine #2

Or

- Positive Quantitative MMR titer (blood draw)

- Each dose of MMR must be at least 28 days apart.
- **MMR vaccine is a live virus vaccine and can interfere with other live virus vaccines (Varicella) and TB testing.** If you need MMR vaccine(s) **AND** Varicella vaccine(s) or TB testing please contact Infection Control for instructions.

Varicella (Chicken Pox)

All applicants must submit proof of immunity to Varicella. Applicants with no history of chickenpox will need proof of two doses of Varicella Vaccine. Varicella vaccines do **NOT** expire. Applicants who have had chickenpox can have a **quantitative** titer (blood draw) from an accredited lab confirming immunity to Varicella. This test can only reliably show immunity for applicants who have a history of the disease. If the titer is negative, or shows that the applicant is not immune, then proof of two (2) doses of Varicella vaccine is required.

- Varicella Vaccine #1
- Varicella Vaccine #2

Or

- Positive Quantitative Varicella titer (Blood Draw)

- Each dose of Varicella must be at least 28 days apart.
- **Varicella vaccine is a live virus vaccine and can interfere with other live virus vaccines (MMR) and TB testing.** If you need Varicella vaccine(s) **AND** MMR vaccine(s) or TB testing please contact Infection Control for instructions.

TB Skin test (TST/PPD)

All Applicants must submit proof of approved TB testing completed less than 6 months prior to your class start date. The Houston Fire Department employs the 2-step procedure. In this procedure a person is given a baseline skin test. If the skin test is (-), a second test is administered at least 7 days after the first test was placed. If new (+) test or previous (+), you must submit chest X-ray interpretation and provide written documentation from his/her physician attesting to non-communicability. If you have a documented previous (+) TB test that is greater than 6 months old, you do not need a new TB skin/blood test.

- Negative TB skin test #1
 - Negative TB skin test #2
- OR**
- Negative TB blood test

Skin Test

- Test #1 and Test #2 must be placed: *No more than one (1) year apart.*
No less than seven (7) days apart.
- Test #2 must be within six (6) months prior to your hiring date.

TB Blood Test

- Must be within six (6) months prior to your Hiring Date.

ONLY IF TEST IS POSITIVE:

- Negative Chest Xray

TB Chest Xray (If Needed)

- Must be within six (6) months prior to your Hiring Date.

If you do not know what immunizations you have received, you can:

- Check with your doctor, who may have a record in your file.
- Check with the local public health department.
- Check with any schools you may have attended most maintain a registry of immunizations.
- Check with your employer. Some employers keep proof of immunization (e.g. military, fire).

All immunizations submitted must follow a CDC-approved immunization schedule. **All labs (titers, bloodwork) must be performed by accredited laboratories and must be documented on an official lab report with a quantitative (numerical) results.**

If you have any questions, please contact the Houston Fire Department Infection Control Office 832-394-6802 or 6916, Mon-Fri 7a-3p.