

County of Santa Clara

Public Health Department

Public Health Administration
150 W. Tasman Drive, 2nd Floor
San José, CA 95134
408.792.5040



September 10, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Santa Clara County has one of the highest numbers of tuberculosis (TB) in the United States. TB is a bacterial infection spread through the air and can affect the lungs, brain, bones, or any part of the body. Anyone can get TB, but children who were born or travel to countries where TB is common or who have spent time with someone with TB are more likely to get TB. TB is treatable and preventable if found early. Santa Clara County requires TB screening for students enrolling in school.

School entry screening is a good time to find a regular clinic if your family doesn't already have one. There are lots of benefits to having a regular clinic including having a place to get vaccines. Children enrolling in a Santa Clara County school for the first time need to have their healthcare provider fill out the TB screening form which is attached.

Take this form to your clinic or provider to complete and return to your child's school. Treatment can help protect you from getting sick with TB disease. People who have TB usually have cough that keeps going on. They may have fever or weight loss without another good reason. They often are more tired and may even cough up blood and were often born in a part of the world where there is a lot of TB: Asia, Africa, Latin America or Eastern Europe. Talk to your clinic or provider about testing your whole family if you have been around someone who might have TB.

Thank you for helping us protect the health of your children by asking your clinic team to review the questions on this form and testing for TB if they have a risk for TB infection.

Sincerely,

Sara H. Cody, MD
Health Officer

Ann M. Loeffler, MD
Tuberculosis Controller