

Health Screening Requirements for GDILT Students Seeking Placement in a Medical Laboratory

To be considered for a Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) placement in a medical laboratory in Aotearoa New Zealand, GDILT students must provide, at their own expense, evidence of immunity or vaccination against specific infectious diseases. These requirements align with those set by Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora and other medical laboratory providers to ensure the safety of patients, staff, and students.

Please note: Supplying the required documentation and completing the health screening process does **not** guarantee placement in a medical laboratory. Placement decisions are made by host organisations and are dependent on their capacity, risk assessment, and placement availability.

Steps to provide evidence of immunity or vaccinations:

1. Review the Student Immunity/Vaccination Requirements listed below, including the relevant documentary evidence needed.
2. Contact your health provider (e.g., practice nurse or GP) to obtain the required documentation. It is recommended this is done before arrival in Aotearoa New Zealand to avoid expense.
3. Vaccinations and serology testing can be arranged through the Ara Health Centre.

Disease	Evidence of immunity required is;
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)	<p>Documented administration of two doses of the MMR vaccine or Serology showing evidence of immunity to Measles, Mumps and Rubella due to receiving the vaccine in the past.</p> <p>You will only be required to show this evidence or undergo the serology testing if you are selected for placement in a medical lab.</p> <p>If you have not received 2 doses of the MMR vaccine and wish to be considered for a medical lab placement, you will need to receive two doses of the MMR vaccine, four weeks apart. Both doses must be completed by the end of week 5, Semester 1 of the GDILT in order to be considered for a medical lab placement in Semester 2.</p> <p>NB: Adults born in New Zealand before 1969 are considered immune to measles, mumps, and rubella. They do not require any other evidence of immunity. If this applies to you, please advise your programme leader.</p>
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	<p>Documented administration of two doses of the Varicella vaccine, or Serology showing evidence of immunity to Varicella or confirmation of a previous infection or Documented diagnosis or confirmation of a history of Herpes Zoster by a health professional</p> <p>If you do not have one of these pieces of evidence, you will need to receive two doses of the varicella vaccine, six weeks apart. Both doses must be completed by the end of week 5, Semester 1 of the GDILT in order to be considered for a medical lab placement in Semester 2.</p>
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (Whooping cough)	<p>Documented administration of one adult dose of Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis vaccine required within the last 10 years.</p> <p>If you do not have this evidence, you be required to receive one does of the DTAP(Boostrix) vaccine only if you are selected for a medical lab placement.</p>
Hepatitis B	Documented administration of 3 doses of Hepatitis B

	<p>and Confirmed Serology checks for HB antibodies and/or If the last vaccine dose was more than 5 years ago, a booster is required 4 weeks prior to serology testing.</p> <p>If you have not previously received the Hepatitis B vaccine, you will need to complete three doses, spaced one month apart, by the end of week 5, Semester 1 of the GDILT to be considered for a medical lab placement in Semester 2.</p> <p>If/once you have evidence of vaccination then serology testing will be required only if you are selected for a medical lab placement.</p> <p>NB: Protection as soon as possible is important to reduce occupational risk. Completing the three doses at one-month intervals leads to an equivalent seroconversion rate (≥ 10 IU/L) as the standard schedule.</p>
Tuberculosis	<p>Documented Mantoux or QuantiFERON-TB Gold test results to identify if further treatment is required.</p> <p>NB: Only required if a student has lived or travelled to a <u>TB High Incidence</u> country within the last five years.</p> <p>If this applies to you, you will need to undertake this blood test in New Zealand and only if you are selected for a medical lab placement.</p>
COVID-19	<p>Documented evidence of three covid-19 vaccinations (two primary and a booster)</p>

Reference: The Immunisation Advisory Centre (Fact Sheet: July 2020) - Occupational related immunisation

In accordance with generally accepted standards of practice for health professionals in New Zealand, no learners will be permitted access to Te Whatu Ora facilities and/or partnering health organisations, where there is a known risk that a learner's health may be affected by these infectious diseases. Ara is required to know the immune/vaccination status of each learner prior to their being provided access to healthcare facilities.

Please note that any information provided will be kept confidential. In the event of an outbreak of an infectious disease Ara will disclose to placement providers the above health information if required. Ara will not otherwise pass the information collected for application and enrolment purposes to any third party. **Transport Requirements for GDILT Students Seeking Placement in a Medical Laboratory**

If you are hoping to undertake your Work Integrated Learning (WIL) placement in a medical laboratory, please be aware that one of the two medical laboratories in Christchurch is **not** easily accessible by public transport.

Students placed at this location will be responsible for arranging their own transport to and from the site. If you do not have access to a private vehicle or reliable alternative transport, this may affect your eligibility for placement in a medical laboratory.

Please note: Access to appropriate transportation **does not guarantee** that you will be placed in a medical laboratory. Placement decisions are made by host organisations and depend on their capacity, risk assessment, and placement availability.

For any questions relating to health screening please contact sciencesocialpractice@ara.ac.nz