Tuberculosis Prevention Policy
Allen Community College

Tuberculosis (TB) is a highly infectious disease that can be spread through the air from person to person. The bacteria can be transmitted through coughing, laughing, talking, or sneezing. More than 1/3 of the world’s population has TB infection. Allen Community College students are required by Kansas statute to complete a TB screening before beginning their first semester.

Students will answer a short screening survey when completing an admissions application. This screening is required for all new students prior to attending classes for their first semester.

For some students, the initial screening will indicate a need for additional testing. These students will be informed and must complete the additional required testing through the local Health Department. The cost of this testing is the responsibility of the student. Failure to complete this testing will result in an academic hold which will prevent the student from enrolling for the following semester. Allen Community College is required to keep records of students required to undergo additional testing.

TB Screening and Testing Procedures

Screening Survey Questions
1. Do you have any of the following symptoms: lasting cough, coughing up blood, fatigue, fever, loss of appetite, or weight loss?
2. Have you been diagnosed with active TB?
3. Have you been in contact with a person who has been diagnosed with active TB?
4. Have you traveled, resided in for more than three months, or was born in a country other than the US? If yes, what country?

Additional Testing
If the initial screening designates a student at a high-risk for TB, s/he will be required to complete additional testing through the local Health Department. Test results from outside the United States will not be accepted. The additional testing may involve:

- Tuberculin skin test (PPD)
- Chest x-ray
- Physical exam
- Interferon blood assay
- Sputum evaluation
- Review of signs of symptoms

To Contact the Health Department
Students will be given the location of the nearest Health Department when they are notified that additional testing is needed. An evaluation form will be completed by the Health Department and the college will keep this form as a record that the student completed the additional testing required. The student is responsible for any testing costs.

Burlingame:
Osage County Health Department
103 W 9th St
Lyndon, KS
785-828-3117

Iola:
Southeast Kansas Health Department
221 S Jefferson
Iola, KS
620-365-2191

Other Resources
World Health Organization (http://www.who.int/en/)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (http://www.cdc.gov/tb/)