

# SACRAMENTO EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AGENCY HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START

## TUBERCULOSIS POLICY GUIDELINES

*Any TB Skin Test other than a standard Mantoux/PPD skin test is unacceptable for Head Start. All TB skin tests must be recorded by a medical professional and include date given and date read (within 48-72 hours).*

### CHILDREN

1. Early Head Start requires every child to present a tuberculosis clearance at the age of twelve months. Children above twelve months of age will be required to be tested prior to enrollment. Tuberculosis clearance must be dated within one year of enrollment.
2. Head Start Preschool requires every child to present a tuberculosis clearance prior to enrollment. A tuberculosis clearance must be dated within one year of enrollment.
3. A history of a positive TB skin test requires a chest x-ray or Quantiferon (QFT) blood test current within four years.
4. A child with a positive TB skin test is required to provide documentation from their medical provider stating the child is free from TB prior to enrollment.
5. Children with active TB must comply with the recommendations of the Health Officer/TB Controller of Sacramento County. Prior to returning to school, the parent must provide documentation from their medical provider stating the child is not contagious for TB.
6. If during a child's enrollment a parent/guardian's TB test converts from a negative to a positive test, the child will be required to obtain a new TB clearance prior to returning to the center.

### STAFF

1. Early Head Start and Head Start Preschool must ensure all staff obtain a TB clearance within sixty days prior to employment and annually thereafter.

2. An employee with a documented positive TB skin test must provide documentation from their medical provider stating they are not contagious for TB prior to employment or resuming work.
3. A history of a positive TB skin test requires a chest x-ray or Quantiferon (QFT) blood test current within four years and every four years thereafter. School districts must adhere to their district policy.
4. An employee requiring a chest x-ray or Quantiferon (QFT) blood test must complete a "Risk Assessment Questionnaire" annually and submit the form to the Head Start central office.
5. An employee with active TB must comply with the recommendations of the Health Officer/TB Controller of Sacramento County. Employees with active TB must not attend work for a minimum of two weeks after they begin drug therapy. Prior to returning to work, the employee must provide documentation from their medical provider stating he/she is not contagious for TB.

### **PARENTS/GUARDIANS (Home Base)**

1. Early Head Start and Head Start Preschool requires the parent/guardian who will be participating with the child in the Home Base option to have a TB clearance dated within one year prior to his/her child's enrollment. No home visits will take place until proof of TB clearance.
2. Proof of a parent's TB clearance is required and will be valid for two years.
3. A parent with a documented positive TB skin test must provide written evidence from a medical provider stating they are not contagious for TB prior to participating in home visits/socializations, which includes field trips.
4. Parents with active TB must comply with recommendations of the Health Officer/TB Controller of Sacramento County. Parents with active TB can not participate in home visits/socializations, including field trips, for a minimum of two weeks after they begin drug therapy. Prior to participating in home visits/socializations, including field trips, the parent must provide documentation from their medical provider stating the parent is not contagious for TB.
5. If a member of the household, who is participating in home visits, is diagnosed with an active case of TB, the participating parent must provide proof of a new TB clearance prior to receiving any home visits or participating in socializations or field trips.
6. Head Start will inform parents where they can have a TB test performed for free or low cost.

## **PARENTS/GUARDIANS (Center Base)**

1. Early Head Start and Head Start requires any parent/guardian who wishes to volunteer or participate in any Head Start/Early Head Start activities must show proof of a TB clearance current within one year of his/her child's enrollment. This includes parent meetings, parent workshops, home visits, and field trips. The TB clearance can include a TB (Mantoux/PPD) skin test, chest x-ray, or a Quantiferon (QFT) blood test.
2. Proof of a parent's TB clearance is required and will be valid for two years.
3. A parent with a documented positive TB skin test must provide written evidence from a medical provider stating they are not contagious for TB prior to participating in parent meetings, parent workshops, home visits, and field trips.
4. Parents with active TB must comply with recommendations of the Health Officer/TB Controller of Sacramento County. Parents with active TB can not participate in any Head Start/Early Head Start activities, including parent meetings, parent workshops, home visits and field trips, for a minimum of two weeks after they begin drug therapy. Prior to any participation, the parent must provide documentation from their medical provider stating the parent is not contagious for TB.
5. Head Start will inform parents where they can have a TB skin test performed for free *or* low cost.

## **COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS**

1. Volunteers must have a TB clearance dated no more than sixty days prior to volunteering.
2. Written evidence of a volunteer's TB clearance is required and will be valid for one year.

This policy approved by Health Services Advisory Committee: 5/21/08

This policy approved by Policy Council: 8/26/08

This policy approved by SETA Governing Board: 9/4/08