

# Tuberculosis Screening

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The Home Office has compulsory tuberculosis (TB) screening for citizens of certain countries as part of their visa application process.

The guidance below is based on frequently asked questions, however you should refer your query to the International Visa Office if you still have questions.

What is TB?

TB is a bacterial infection. Further information can be found [here](#).

Do I need to be tested for TB before coming to the UK?

If you are a permanent resident of a country from [this list](#), and are applying for leave in the UK for more than 6 months, you will need to provide a TB certificate in support of your visa application.

Who is exempt from providing a TB certificate? The following visa applicants will not be required to show a TB certificate:

- x You have lived in a country where TB screening is not required for at least 6 months, and you have not been away from that country for more than 6 months.
- x You are a returning UK resident and have not been outside of the UK for more than 2 years.
- x You are a diplomat accredited to the United Kingdom.

My nationality does not require TB testing for visa application purposes. Do I need to be tested?

Yes as this requirement is based on where you are currently living rather than your country of nationality, you will need to provide a TB test if you have been living in a country in [this list](#) for more than 6 months.

Where will I need to go to obtain a TB certificate?

You will need to go to an approved test clinic. You can find a list [here](#).

How long is the TB certificate valid for?