

A Detailed Guide for Your Coming Clinic Visit: --What to Expect at Your Green Card Medical Exam (I-693)

What to bring to the medical examination

In preparation for the medical exam, you should be sure to bring the following:

- Your partially filled out form I-693 (the doctor will fill out his section after the exam)
- A list of any vaccines you have had
- Prepare a list of any chronic medical conditions you have, or any medication you are taking
- If you have been treated or hospitalized for psychiatric or mental illness, or alcohol or drug abuse, you will need to bring written certification from a doctor -including the diagnosis, length of treatment, and your prognosis.
- If you have had any history of violent behavior you will need to bring information that will allow the doctor to determine whether the behavior was related to a psychiatric or medical problem, or to drug or alcohol use. Harmful behavior includes attempted suicide or self-harm, no matter how minor in nature.
- If you have had syphilis, a written certificate, signed by a doctor or public health official, proving that you were adequately treated. If you have ever had a positive VDRL or other blood test for syphilis, and were not treated, you must bring a written explanation signed your doctor.
- If you or anyone in your immigrating family have any form of disabilities, you should bring a report of their condition, and any requirements they have as far as special education or supervision
- If you have ever tested positive for TB (tuberculosis), you should bring a certificate from your doctor giving the circumstances of the positive test result, indicating any treatment prescribed and how long it lasted, and if proof that you were adequately treated -including dates and types of medications prescribed.
- If you have ever had an abnormal chest X-ray, bring the last X-ray films taken. The actual films, not the typed reports, may be required.

What the doctor will examine & administer

The exam itself is straight forward. The doctor will review your medical history, and then give you a physical examination, order chest x-ray and lab tests. Children under the age of 15 will normally not have to have the lab tests for STDs. If you are pregnant you may request that the x-ray be delayed, but this is not always allowed.

Depending on your vaccine history, you can expect to receive any vaccines you might be missing. The doctor then completes the Green Card Medical exam with a sealed "Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record."

Standard Physical

The doctor will conduct a standard physical, as you have likely received from your regular doctor before.

Vaccinations

The civil surgeon will look over your vaccination records to let you know if you will need any vaccinations in order to complete your immigration medical exam. If you have received all required vaccinations and have all necessary records, you will not need to receive any additional vaccinations. If vaccines are required to complete your medical exam, you can get the required vaccinations at your local pharmacy or our clinic.

If you have received vaccinations in the past but do not have your vaccination records, you have the option of having blood titers drawn to prove your immunity. Blood titers are blood tests that can check for certain antibodies against certain diseases. If you have had a full series of vaccinations in the past, the

blood titers will prove that you are immune to the disease and do not require the vaccinations. However, if a blood titer comes back as not immune, the vaccination is then required.

The vaccinations required include:

- Hepatitis A and B
- Influenza
- Influenza type b (Hib)
- Measles
- Meningococcal
- Mumps
- Pneumococcal
- Pertussis
- Polio
- Rotavirus
- Rubella
- Tetanus and diphtheria toxoids
- Varicella

Vaccine Requirements According to Applicant Age

Vaccines by applicant age	Birth–1 month	2–11 months	12 months–6 years	7–10 years	11–17 years	18–64 years	≥65 years
DTP/DTaP/DT	NO	YES		No			
Td/Tdap	NO			Sometimes*	YES (substitute 1-time dose of Tdap for Td booster; then boost with Td every 10 years)		
Polio** (IPV/OPV)	NO	YES				NO	
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella	NO		YES, if born in 1957 or later				NO
Rotavirus***	NO	YES, 6 weeks to 8 months	NO				
Hib	NO	YES, 2 through 59 months old		NO			
Hepatitis A	NO		YES, 12 through 23 months old	NO			
Hepatitis B	YES, through 18 years old						NO
Meningococcal (MenACWY)	NO			YES, 11 through 18 years old		NO	
Varicella	NO		YES				
Pneumococcal	NO	YES, 2 through 59 months old (administer PCV)		NO			YES (administer either PCV or PPSV depending on vaccination history)
Influenza	NO, if less than 6 months old		YES, ≥ 6 months (annually when flu vaccine is available in country of exam)				

DTP—pediatric formulation diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccine; DTaP—pediatric formulation diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine; DT—pediatric formulation diphtheria and tetanus toxoids; Td—adult formulation tetanus and diphtheria toxoids; Tdap—adolescent and adult formulation tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (*Children 7-10 years old sometimes need a dose of Tdap depending on their vaccine history. See [Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis-Containing Vaccines Catch-Up Guidance](#) on CDC’s website for additional information.); IPV—inactivated poliovirus vaccine (killed); OPV—oral poliovirus vaccine (live); Hib—Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine; MenACWY—quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine; PCV—pneumococcal conjugate vaccine; PPSV—pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine. ** Please see posted [Addendum to Technical Instructions for Panel Physicians for Vaccinations](#) on CDC’s website for changing guidance about polio vaccine. ***Rotavirus vaccination should not be initiated for infants aged 15 weeks 0 days or older.

This table describes vaccine requirements for U.S. immigrant visa and status adjustment applicants only and does not include recommendations for other clinical purposes. See the [Immunization Schedules](#) on CDC’s website for number and spacing of doses for required vaccines.



* Children 7-10 years old sometimes need a dose of Tdap depending on their vaccine history. See [Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis-Containing Vaccines Catch-Up Guidance \[PDF – 4 pages\]](#) on CDC’s website for additional information.

** Please see posted [Addendum to Technical Instructions for Panel Physicians for Vaccinations](#) on CDC’s website for changing guidance about polio vaccine.

*** Rotavirus vaccination should not be initiated for infants aged 15 weeks 0 days or older.

Tuberculosis (TB) Screening

All applicants two years of age or older are required to have a tuberculin skin test (TST). Children younger than age two are required to have a TST if there is evidence of contact with a person known to have TB or if there is other reason to suspect TB. If evidence of TB infection is found, a chest X-ray is required. Any person with a positive skin test reaction of more than 5mm will also be required to undergo a chest X-ray.

After the TST is administered, the doctor will ask you to return in 48 to 72 hours for the results to be read. If the results are measured as 5mm or larger, you will then be required to have the chest X-ray to rule out tuberculosis as the cause.

Pregnant women must still undergo the X-ray if the TST is found to be 5mm or larger.

Syphilis Blood Test

All applicants age 15 and older are required to be tested for syphilis by USCIS, as well as applicants 14 and under who have symptoms of syphilis or a history of syphilis. The syphilis screening is a blood draw to determine if the applicant has syphilis. The blood draw must be done at the same time as the medical exam and at the civil surgeon's designated laboratory. If syphilis is detected, the applicant will need to be treated before the I-693 form can be completed.

Gonorrhea Urine Test

All applicants age 15 and older are required to be tested for gonorrhea by USCIS, as well as applicants 14 and under who have symptoms of gonorrhea or a history of gonorrhea. The gonorrhea screening is a simple urine collection. If gonorrhea is detected in the sample, the applicant will need to be treated before the I-693 forms can be completed.

Illnesses or conditions that may make you inadmissible

Only certain medical conditions can make you inadmissible to the United States under the Immigration and Nationality Act (I.N.A.), under Sections 212(a) and 221(d). These include:

- A communicable disease of public health significance. These include active tuberculosis, gonorrhea, infectious leprosy, and infectious syphilis. HIV was removed from this list on Jan. 4, 2010.
- A physical or mental disorder and a history of behavior associated with the disorder that may pose or has posed a threat to the property, safety, or welfare of the applicant or others.
- A physical or mental disorder and a history of behavior associated with the disorder that may pose or has posed a threat to the property, safety, or welfare of the alien or others, and which behavior is likely to recur or lead to other harmful behavior.
- Abuse of or addiction to drugs.

Submitting the results of your medical exam

If you are applying for your green card through adjustment of status, the doctor will complete Form I-693 and give it to you in a sealed envelope. Do not open the envelope. You must then submit the sealed examination with your application to USCIS. The envelope will not be accepted if it is not sealed.

The results of your examination remain valid for up to one year before you file your application for a green card.