Dear Parents,

With the belief that a junior volunteer program at Lankenau should be rewarding experience for both the junior volunteer and the hospital, we ask you to read the attached description of the program before signing your consent to your young person’s participation in the program. We also ask your cooperation in helping your teenager fulfill their 40-hour commitment to Lankenau Medical Center.

There are many types of services to be performed in the hospital. The type of duty to which your junior may be assigned will depend upon age, interest and ability. Keeping these factors in mind, the Volunteer Department will decide with your teen where they will work. Our purpose will be to give the greatest service to the hospital and the best personal satisfaction to the junior volunteer.

It is important that you review the question and answer information about the QFT TB screening required to volunteer at Main Line Health. More information about how to secure this TB screening at a Main Line Health Lab will be shared with you and your child at an interview session.

We, at Lankenau, are pleased that your teenager wants to volunteer. I am sure that they will receive great satisfaction from serving others. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Volunteer Office at 484.476.2138. Thank you for your interest in Lankenau Medical Center.

Sincerely,

Laurie Watson
Director of Volunteer Services
Information for Parents

The Volunteer Department at Lankenau Medical Center strongly believes that volunteer and community service contributes to the positive development of our young students. It is our goal to provide valuable experiences that will foster this growth and will provide the incentive to continue as a volunteer through life’s journey.

Volunteering at Lankenau is a very rewarding experience for the volunteer, patients and the health care team.

Goals of the Program

1. To augment the patient care services of the hospital through the efforts of volunteers
2. To provide volunteer experiences for motivated young people
3. To encourage students to explore the variety of opportunities in the health care field

Application Requirements (Minimum age of a volunteer is 14 years)

1. The application filled out by the junior volunteer
2. Two references (names, addresses and telephones noted on the application)
   a. Written recommendation of their school counselor, on the provided form
   b. One additional reference from a non-related adult
3. Written proof of current immunization from their physician (measles, mumps, rubella and has had chicken pox)
4. Written permission from the parent or legal guardian to participate as a junior volunteer
5. Signed permission from the parent or legal guardian for tuberculosis screening (QFT)

Junior volunteers wear khaki or dark colored pants (NO JEANS) and polo shirts with the Lankenau Medical Center logo. Information on purchasing uniform shirts will be provided at a scheduled interview session. Volunteers may wear sneakers (as long as they are clean) or good walking shoes.
FAQ  Frequently Asked Questions  

QuantiFERON - TB Gold in-Tube test (QFT)

Q: What is QuantiFERON TB Gold in-Tube test?
A: QuantiFERON - TB Gold in-Tube is an accurate, blood test that provides results showing if someone is either infected or not with the TB bacterium. QFT is unaffected by previous BCG vaccinations and most other environmental mycobacteria.

Q: Why is the QuantiFERON test better than the TB skin test?
A: The results through QFT are shown to be more accurate at detecting a tuberculosis infection than a TB skin test. A traditional TB skin test requires multiple visits to complete. A TB skin test may also result in false positives due to cross-reactivity with the BCG vaccination or responses to environmental mycobacteria. These and other limitations have shown QFT to be the most effective and best alternative to TB skin testing.

Q: What are the benefits of the QuantiFERON® - TB Gold in-Tube test?
A: Some of the benefits include:
  • Requires only one visit
  • Does not compromise previous test results
  • Is a controlled laboratory test
  • Is objective and not affected by interpretation
  • Results can be available in as little as 72 hours

Q: Is the QuantiFERON test approved by the CDC and FDA for TB testing?
A: Yes, both the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have approved the use of the QuantiFERON - TB Gold in-Tube test (QFT).

Q: Who at Main Line Health will be required to receive the QuantiFERON test?
A: Currently, all new-hires of Main Line Health are receiving the QFT test, and Main Line Health will be transitioning all annual tuberculosis required employees and volunteers to the QFT test beginning July 1, 2012.

Q: I am a MLH employee who is currently required to complete an annual PPD Skin Test, will I need to complete the QuantiFERON test?
A: Infection Control is currently working to redefine which employees at MLH will be required to complete an annual tuberculosis test. If it is determined that your position will require an annual tuberculosis test to be completed, you will be required to complete the QuantiFERON test instead of the PPD Skin Test.

Q: I have a history of a past-positive PPD and normally complete an annual Positive PPD Questionnaire, will I be required to complete the QuantiFERON test for medical surveillance?
A: Yes, you will be required to receive the QuantiFERON test initially which will determine if you are a confirmed positive. If you are confirmed as a positive, you will be required to continue annual monitoring, regardless if your position is taken off the annual requirement list by Infection Control. If you are confirmed negative by the QFT test, the Infection Control guidelines will determine if you are required to complete an annual tuberculosis test.

Q: Where will the QuantiFERON test be offered?
A: Currently, the QFT test is being offered at the Paoli and Lankenau Occupational Health offices. Other testing locations are as listed on the QFT instructions sheet.

Additional Questions?
Please contact Occupational Health at 484-565-1293 and someone will assist you.