

Migration Health Assessments for Australia-Bound Migrants

All applicants are required to undergo a migration health assessment as part of their visa application process for Australia. In this document, you will find important information related to your upcoming migration health assessment at IOM's Migration Health Assessment Centre (MHAC) in Bangkok, Thailand.

You will also be able to download this document at the end of the appointment-making process.

IOM MHAC BANGKOK, THAILAND Contact Information

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Opening Hours: Monday-Thursday 8.00-17.00, Friday 8.00-14.30

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What Should I Expect at my Appointment?

The scope of the migration health assessment varies depending on factors such as your visa category, age, gender and current health status. The list below shows some of the procedures that you or your family (if they are applying to migrate with you to Australia) might receive:

- Registration.
- Counselling to explain the health assessment process (at the end of the counselling you will sign an informed consent form).
- *Medical examination*, which may include the following:
 - A review of your medical history and current symptoms.
 - Taking your measurements and vital signs.
 - A detailed physical examination to assess your physical and mental status.
 - A chest X-ray.
 - A *tuberculin skin test (TST)* or Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA – blood test) for tuberculosis.
 - Serum Creatinine test, HIV test (*applicants applying for certain visa categories may also be tested for syphilis, hepatitis B and C*).

Breakdown of Migration Health Assessment Procedures, by Age of Applicant:

< 2 years old	Physical examination
2 – 10 years old	Physical examination; Blood or skin test for tuberculosis
11 – 14 years old	Physical examination; Chest X-ray
≥ 15 years old	Physical examination; Chest X-ray; Serum creatinine test; HIV test

Pregnant women	Physical examination; Chest X-ray; Serum creatinine test; Hepatitis B test
Other special significance	Physical examination; Chest X-ray; Serum creatinine test; HIV test; Hepatitis B test ⁽¹⁾ ; Hepatitis C test ⁽¹⁾ ; Blood or skin test for tuberculosis ⁽²⁾

All basic requirements are done on the same day, during the same appointment. ⁽¹⁾ For applicants who intend to work as a doctor, nurse, paramedics or a health care worker who will have face to face contact with patients. ⁽²⁾ TB screening test (IGRA or TST) for applicants from high TB risk country, and applying for permanent or provisional visa, or applying for a temporary visa of more than 6 months, or applying for a temporary visa and declare close household contact with TB within the last five years.

Tuberculosis Screening Test *

- ▶ Permanent and provisional visa applicants aged 2-10 years old, or applicants from high TB risk country are required to complete a Tuberculosis Screening Test which can be opted between Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) or Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA).
- ▶ If the previous TST or IGRA, recorded in a valid medical record, is positive, TST or IGRA will not be done.
- ▶ IGRA requires 1 visit while TST requires 2 visits with the interval of 48-72 hours. If the applicant failed to come for the second visit within 48-72 hours after TST was placed, the procedure needs to be repeated.
- ▶ IGRA can be scheduled on Monday - Thursday.
- ▶ TST can be scheduled on Monday - Friday, **except Thursday** (please see the timetable below)
- ▶ If a TB screening test (TST or IGRA), either in a medical record or done at IOM, is positive, a chest X- ray is further required and additional fees will apply.

Scheduling Timetable for a Tuberculin Skin Test (TST)

1 st Visit: injection	2 nd Visit: result reading
Monday	Wednesday or Thursday
Tuesday	Thursday or Friday
Wednesday	Friday
Friday	Monday

Will I need additional tests or procedures?

Additional tests or treatment may be required in order to complete the health assessment and/or to comply with the requirements of the immigration authorities, based on health conditions identified during your examination. In such an event, you will be provided with additional counselling and more information during your appointment.

Will I receive any vaccines?

Immunizations are not currently required as part of the migration health assessment for Australia, unless special arrangements apply (such as immunization in case of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases in the country of origin). However, you are strongly encouraged to complete immunizations before you travel to Australia and bring your immunization record with you. If you wish, the IOM doctor can review your record and provide advice on missing vaccinations. For further information, please refer to:

<https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/national-immunisation-program>

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/topics/what-are-immunisation-requirements/35396>

Important Notes

Minors:

Applicants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a **parent or guardian** who can provide consent and make decisions on their behalf.

Pregnancy:

If you are pregnant and undergoing a migration health assessment, you may choose to either get the chest X-ray with a double leaded shielding to protect you and your unborn baby **or** wait to proceed with the migration health assessment until after giving birth.

If you choose to proceed with the chest X-ray, you will be requested to sign an additional consent form.

Tuberculosis (TB):

TB is a contagious bacterial infection that is spread from person to person through tiny droplets in the air. TB can be either:

- (1) **Latent TB:** when you have the bacteria in your body, but you don't have any clinical manifestations. In order to diagnose latent TB, active TB should be ruled out.
- (2) **Active TB:** when you have the bacteria and have clinical, radiological or laboratory manifestations.

You might be asked to undergo further testing if the doctor suspects you have TB. In such an event, you will be provided with additional counselling and more information during your appointment.

You will be requested to provide three (3) sputum samples over 3 consecutive days. These samples are then tested in a laboratory; **it can take up to 8-10 weeks to obtain a result.**

If you are required to complete this test, your health assessment certificate will be put on hold until the results are received. If you are found to have TB, you will need to successfully complete treatment before resuming the immigration process.

Good news! **TB is treatable** and most people can be cured with a few months of oral antibiotics.

What Do I Need to Bring to My Appointment?

Identification:

- Health examinations list (HAP Letter) with HAP ID.
- Passport (valid original); in exceptional cases where your original passport is not available, alternative identity documentation as outlined below are accepted:

HAP Letter & Certified Passport Copy	For all cases
HAP Letter & Photo (Stamp)	For all cases
HAP Letter & National ID Card	If the issuing country is one where Home Affairs permits national ID cards to be used for eMedical identity purposes.
National ID Card & Certified Passport Copy	

Medical Records:

- Any medical reports on past or current medical conditions.
- Child Health and Development Record for children, if available.

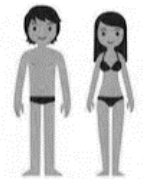
▶ A Polio Vaccination Certificate for applicants who have spent 28 days or longer in the Polio endemic countries or outbreak countries on or after 5 May 2014. For further information, please refer to: <http://polioeradication.org/where-we-work/>

Other:

▶ Eyeglasses or lenses, if you wear them.

Advice for the Migration Health Assessment

- ▶ For your physical examination, you will be asked to remove your clothes and will be provided with a medical gown, but **please keep your underwear on** (see image at right).
- ▶ You **may request a chaperone** to be present at your physical examination.
- ▶ **Please do not conceal any medical conditions**; deliberate attempts to hide them will be reported to the Australian immigration authorities.
- ▶ For female applicants, **please do not conceal your pregnancy**; being pregnant will have no impact on your immigration prospects.
- ▶ **Please postpone or re-schedule your appointment if you or your child are ill** with a fever or have a rash
- ▶ For female applicants, **please postpone or re-schedule your appointment if you are menstruating**, as it may affect the urine test result.
- ▶ There is **no need to fast** prior to your appointment.
- ▶ **For applicants unable to communicate in the local language or English, please bring an interpreter** with you on the appointment date. The interpreter must not be a family member. The interpretation service fees shall be at your own expense.



Migration Health Assessment Fees and Payment Information

Fees, by Age of Applicants:

< 2 years old	2,150 THB
2 – 10 years old	2,510 THB or 6,750 THB*
11 – 14 years old	3,590 THB
≥ 15 years old	4,020 THB (temporary visa) or 4,560 THB (permanent and provisional visa)
Pregnant women	4,560 THB
Other special significance ⁽¹⁾	5,640 THB
Other special significance ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	6,000 THB or 10,240 THB*

⁽¹⁾ For applicants who intend to work as a doctor, nurse, or paramedics, or a health care worker who will have face to face contact with patients ⁽²⁾ TB screening test (IGRA or TST) for applicants from high TB risk country, and applying for permanent or provisional visa, or applying for a temporary visa of more than 6 months, or applying for a temporary visa and declare close household contact with TB within the last five years. Additional fees will apply if other investigations are requested.

How to Pay for the Migration Health Assessment:

▶ Payments must be made at the IOM MHAC on the day of the migration health assessment **in Thai Baht by cash or QR code payment**. Credit card payment is not accepted.

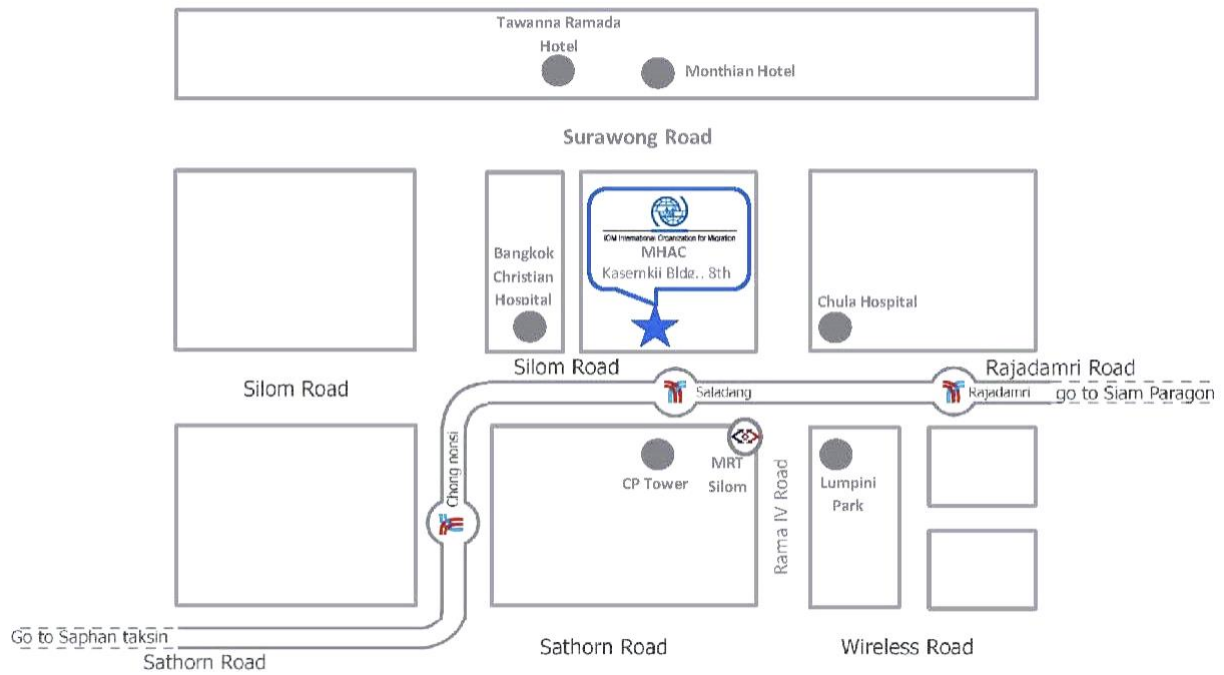
Map and Directions:

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Google Maps Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/rCf58GVxff84rpCj6>

