



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Students exposed to TB at Lee High School must complete screening before Aug. 24

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Officials with the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) are investigating a second case of pulmonary tuberculosis identified in a student at Robert E. Lee High School in Montgomery County. The parents of students who were exposed are being contacted, and only those students who receive letters should be tested.

After the first case was identified, in an effort to limit any health risks to students, teachers and staff, Montgomery Public School students were notified by ADPH in late June that they may have been exposed. They were advised that they should complete precautionary TB screening before the start of school, but some students have not yet completed this screening.

The second student was confirmed positive for active TB on Aug. 14 and was a close contact of the first person identified. According to ADPH, "close contact" is defined generally as spending an extended amount of time with the subject in a physically close environment.

Students who have received letters must be tested the first week of school. ADPH will begin screening students at the Montgomery County Health Department, 3060 Mobile Highway, on Monday, Aug. 19. Students will be allowed to make up any missed school work and will receive excused absences to leave school and be tested. In addition, the district will help parents who request assistance with transportation for testing. The school district will continue to work closely with ADPH and provide assistance until the screenings are completed.

Tuberculosis is a treatable and preventable disease. ADPH recommends that only individuals who were in close contact with the two people found to have TB be tested.

For more information, please call the Montgomery County Health Department at (334) 293-6423 or Pam Fortner, TB Control Division director, at (334) 206-6228.