

EXEMPTIONS 101



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What is a religious exemption?

Religious exemptions are used when a parent has a sincerely held belief that prohibits their child/children from receiving vaccinations.

How Do I Get an exemption?

Because each state sets their own laws, every process is different for each state.

It can also depend on the school. Your school may have their own form for you to complete.

Affidavit Snapshot

Georgia Requirements



AFFIDAVIT OF RELIGIOUS OBJECTION TO IMMUNIZATION

_____(name of parent or guardian) personally appeared before the undersigned notary public and swore or affirmed as follows:

1. I am the parent or legal guardian of _____ (name of minor child), born on _____ (date of birth).
2. I understand that the Georgia Department of Public Health requires children to obtain vaccinations against the following diseases before being admitted to a child care facility or school: diphtheria; Haemophilus influenzae type B (not required on or after the fifth birthday); hepatitis A; hepatitis B; measles; meningitis; mumps; pertussis (whooping cough); pneumococcal disease (not required on or after the fifth birthday); poliomyelitis; rubella (German measles); tetanus; and varicella (chickenpox).
3. I understand that the Georgia Department of Public Health has determined:
 - a. that the required vaccinations are necessary to prevent the spread of dangerous diseases among the children and people of this State;
 - b. that the required vaccinations are safe;
 - c. that a child who does not receive the required vaccinations is at risk of contracting those diseases; and
 - d. that a child who does not receive the required vaccinations is at risk of spreading these diseases to me, to other children in the child care facility or school, and to other persons.
4. I sincerely affirm that vaccination is contrary to my religious beliefs, and that my objections to vaccination are not based solely on grounds of personal philosophy or inconvenience.
5. I understand that, notwithstanding my religious objections, my child may be excluded from child care facilities or schools during an epidemic or threatened epidemic of any disease preventable by a vaccination required by the Georgia Department of Public Health, and that my child may be required to receive a vaccination in the event that such a disease is in epidemic stages, as provided in Georgia Code Section 31-12-3 and DPH Rule 511-9-1-.03(2)(d).

This ____ day of _____, _____.

Parent or Legal Guardian

Sworn and subscribed before me
this ____ day of _____, _____.

Notary Public
My commission expires _____.

Form 2208
Revised June 2019

We protect lives.

There is no standard form for the affidavit of religious exemption. The parent or guardian must give the school or childcare facility a signed and dated notarized affidavit stating that immunizations are against the family's religious beliefs.

This affidavit of religious exemption should be filed instead of the Georgia Immunization Certificate (Form 3231). The affidavit does not expire.