

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.

South Carolina Requirements

Sample Form

	South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption (From Immunization)
	
Section I - Pupil Information	
Pupil's Last Name First Name Initial Birthdate Name of School	
Street Address City County Zip Code Home Telephone	
Parent/Guardian's Name Parent's/Guardian's Work - Telephone	
Section II - Religious Exemption Authority	
<small>Pursuant to Section 44-29-40 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976 Department of Health and Environmental Control Regulation 61-8, 1980, "A South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption may be granted to any student whose parents, guardian, or person in loco parentis signs the appropriate sections of the SOUTH CAROLINA CERTIFICATE OF RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION stating they are members of a recognized religious denomination in which the tenets and practices of the religious denomination conflict with immunizations."</small>	
Section III - Statement of Religious Objection	
<small>As the parent (legal guardian or person in loco parentis) of the child named in SECTION I - PUPIL INFORMATION of this form, a minor seeking to be admitted into a child development program, a four or five year kindergarten, or school whether public, private, or parochial in South Carolina, I request that said minor be exempted because of religious objections from immunizations in accordance with Section II, Sub-section B of Department of Health and Environmental Control Regulation 61-8, 1980 (as stated in SECTION II above).</small>	
Signed _____ (parent, legal guardian, or person in loco parentis)	
Sworn to and subscribed before me	
this _____ day of _____, 20 _____ SEAL	
_____ Notary Public of South Carolina	
<small>1 ORIGINAL Record for parent, legal guardian, or person in loco parentis 2 COPY School Copy (To be sent to local Health Dept.) 3 COPY School Record</small>	

DHEC 1126 (09/20010) SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Students with a religious exemption have presented a valid Certificate of Religious Exemption. A religious exemption may be granted to any student whose parent(s), legal guardian, or person in loco parentis signs and has notarized the Statement of Religious Objection of the South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption.

The South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption may only be obtained at a county public health department. Forms cannot be e-mailed or mailed.

Religious exemptions are only available for those attending childcare facilities and K-12 schools. Religious exemptions do not apply to COVID-19 vaccines as COVID-19 vaccines are not currently a state-mandated vaccine for childcare and K-12 school attendance.