

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.

Health Form Excerpt



Section 1a. Religious Exemption	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if religious exemption to immunization selected by parent/guardian	
1b. Health Examination Documentation (if required)	
<input type="checkbox"/> This child has been examined:	MM / DD / YY
Certified by (Signature/Stamp)	
1c. Check if needed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dental Screening	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vision Screening	

Exemption Template

Child's Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Name:

Address

State _____ Zip _____

Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated 49-6-5001(b)(2), I am declining vaccination(s) for my child because of conflict with my religious tenets and practices.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

_____ Date _____

*Adapted from Model Religious Exemption

Tennessee Requirements

The exemption requires a signed statement by the parent/guardian that vaccination conflicts with their religious tenets or practices.

If the child needs documentation of a health examination for the school, it must be noted by the healthcare provider on the immunization certificate.

In that case, the provider should check the box that the parent has sought a religious exemption to explain why immunization information is absent or incomplete (see example).

This is the only requirement for an exemption.

If you already have a physical on file, you can submit an exemption statement at any time.

I have included an example statement you can use.