

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.

Colorado Requirements

Parents have two potential options to acquire a “non-medical” exemption:

- Find a medical professional who will sign a “non-medical” exemption state form. The provider is then incentivized to enter the child’s data into CIIS for either vaccine received or vaccine refusal. Often parents are not notified of this entry of records into CIIS. However, not all medical providers subscribe to CIIS.
- Complete an online vaccine educational module and either “submit & print” the certificate to CIIS or “print only” for the certificate to be given to the child’s school or daycare. Although the “print only” form states that the data will not be directly stored in CIIS, there is a high likelihood that the school or daycare will submit this state form to CDPHE or manually enter the data for inclusion in CIIS.
- Parents of students in preschool or child care must submit nonmedical exemptions at 2, 4, 6, 12 and 18 months of age. These exemptions expire when the next vaccines are due or when the child enrolls in kindergarten.
- Parents of students in grades K-12 claiming a nonmedical exemption must submit one annually. Nonmedical exemptions expire June 30th each year. If you submit a Certificate of nonmedical exemption on or before June 30th, it will not be valid for the upcoming school year unless you submit the exemption during early registration.
- Students in college/university claiming a nonmedical exemption must submit a Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption upon enrollment.