

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.

Exemption Form

Oklahoma Requirements

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION

Please read instructions on the reverse of this certificate before completing.
All entries must be legible or form will be returned. Please print unless signature is required.

Name of Child (Last, First, MI)	Birth Date	Birth Country	Birth State	
Parent or Guardian's Name	Mother's Maiden Name	Parent's Street Address		
County	City	State	Parent Phone Number	
Name of School, Child Care Facility or Head Start	School District	School Year	School Grade	Facility Phone Number
Race (select up to 3): <input type="checkbox"/> Alaska Native or American Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American <input type="checkbox"/> Black or Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Ethnicity (select 1): <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	Child's Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		

TYPE OF EXEMPTION

(Complete either section 1, 2 or 3 and sections 4 & 5)

1. MEDICAL CONTRAINDICATION:

I hereby certify that the immunization(s) specified below are medically contraindicated for the above named child.

Immunization(s) _____ State the condition that would endanger the life or health of the child.

Printed name of Physician _____ Signature of Physician _____

Address of Physician _____ Phone number of Physician _____

2. RELIGIOUS OBJECTION:

I hereby certify that immunization is contrary to the teachings of the above named child's religion.

Printed name of Religious Leader or Parent/Guardian _____ Signature of Religious Leader or Parent/Guardian _____

3. PERSONAL OBJECTION:

I hereby certify that immunization is contrary to my beliefs. As the parent or legal guardian of the above named child, I request an exemption to the immunization requirements for School, Child Care Facility or Head Start attendance. I have written a brief summary of my objections in the space provided below. **I understand that lost records are not grounds for an exemption.**

REQUIRED: Summary of Objections: (Limited to 600 characters.)

4. Please check which immunizations this exemption applies to:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DTap/TdTap
(Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hib
(Haemophilus Influenzae type B) | <input type="checkbox"/> Polio |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis A | <input type="checkbox"/> MMR
(Measles, Mumps and Rubella) | <input type="checkbox"/> Varicella (Chickenpox) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis B | <input type="checkbox"/> Pneumococcal | <input type="checkbox"/> All |

5. Acknowledgement

I understand that in the event of a disease outbreak in the School, Child Care Facility or Head Start, my child may have to be excluded for his/her protection and for the protection of the other children in the School, Child Care Facility or Head Start.

Printed name of Parent/Guardian _____ Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

ATTENTION: PARENT/GUARDIAN - This form is to be submitted to the School, Child Care Facility or Head Start. The School, Child Care Facility or Head Start should keep a copy of this form and mail the original to:

Oklahoma State Department of Health
Immunization Service
123 Robert S Kerr, Suite 1702
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102-6406

ODH Form 216-A (Revised 07/21) For Questions Call: 405-426-8580
Oklahoma State Department of Health For forms, visit: <http://imm.health.ok.gov>

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There are currently 3 types of vaccine exemptions available to Oklahoma students: medical, religious, and philosophical (sometimes called the personal belief exemption).

Facilities used to be required to keep exemption forms on hand, but this changed in 2017. It is now recommended parents print off the exemption form themselves and turn it in.

County health departments and private doctors do not have exemption certificates on hand.

Parents are not required, nor should they come to the Oklahoma State Department of Health, to obtain an exemption certificate.

I recommend writing something like "Vaccines violate my philosophical beliefs" or "I believe the risks of vaccines outweigh the benefits".