



State of Alaska Religious Exemption Form

Effective July 1, 2013

This official State form is required for all religious exemptions

Children in Alaska public and private schools, preschools and child care facilities must be immunized in accordance with state law unless he/she is exempted. For religious exemptions, parents/guardians must sign an affidavit: Alaska Administrative Codes **7 AAC 57.550 for child care** affirming that immunization conflicts with the tenets and practices of the church or religious denomination of which the parent or guardian is a member; or **4 AAC 06.055 for school** affirming that immunization conflicts with the tenets and practices of the church or religious denomination of which the applicant is a member.

(NOTE: Personal or philosophical exemptions are not allowed under Alaska regulations.)

If a religious exemption is applicable, the child's parent/guardian must complete the information below and return this form to the school, preschool, or child care facility. The form is required to be notarized and renewed annually.

Name of Child

Birth date

I/We affirm that immunization conflicts with the tenets and practices of the church or religious denomination of which the applicant/parent/guardian is a member. I/We understand that if there is an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease that my child has not been fully immunized against, my child may be at risk for disease and may be excluded from school or child care until he/she is determined to no longer be at risk of developing the disease.

Signature of Parent(s) or Guardian(s)

Telephone

Date

(Form valid from July 1 through June 30)

State of _____

Judicial District _____ SS.

The Foregoing Instrument was acknowledged before me by

_____ on this _____ day of

_____, 20 _____.

Witness my hand and seal.

Notary Public (Signature)

Notary's printed name

Notary's city

My commission expires _____



Effective July 1, 2013 Religious Exemption Documentation Requirements



Alaska state immunization laws for school and child care attendance allow two types of exemptions, medical and religious.

Effective July 1, 2013, changes to religious exemption documentation requirements will be implemented for school and child care attendance. (There are no changes to medical exemption documentation requirements.)

The changes include:

- The *State of Alaska Religious Exemption* form with a revision date of March 2013 is required for children whose parents/guardians claim religious exemption status. Previously completed religious exemption forms will not be grandfathered.
- Religious exemption forms are valid from July 1 through June 30 each year and must be renewed annually. For compliance purposes, enforcement of annual renewal for children enrolled in summer programs (i.e., summer school, child care) will begin on July 15.
- Notarization of the form is required for all children with religious exemptions.

Note: Modification to wording of the state religious exemption form may invalidate the exemption. Statements indicating philosophical or personal opposition to vaccines will invalidate religious exemption documentation.

State laws supporting these changes include:

- 7 AAC 57.550 – Title 7 Health and Social Services, Part 4 Children’s Services and Juvenile Justice, Chapter 57 Child Care Facilities Licensing, Article 5 Care and Services, Section 550 Health
- 4 AAC 06.055 – Title 4 Education and Early Development, Chapter 6 Government of Schools, Article 1 General Administration, Section 55 Immunizations Required
- AS 18.15.355 – Title 18 Health, Safety, Housing, Human Rights, and Public Defender, Chapter 15 Disease Control and Threats to Public Health, Section 355 Prevention and Control of Conditions of Public Health Importance

The above requirements have been reviewed and approved by the State of Alaska’s Department of Health and Social Services, Department of Education and Early Development, and Attorney General’s Office.

Questions regarding religious exemption requirements may be directed to the Alaska Immunization Program Helpline: 269-8088 in Anchorage or 1-888-430-4321.