



Religious Exemption for COVID-19 Vaccination/Booster

Any County employee may submit a Religious Exemption request for COVID-19 vaccinations. Note that as required by the California State Public Health Officer Order, all workers who provide services or work in a hospital, clinic, or other healthcare facility, were required to have their first dose of a one-dose regimen series (Johnson and Johnson [J&J]/Janssen) or their second dose of a two-dose regimen (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna or vaccine authorized by the World Health Organization) by September 30, 2021. Effective March 1, 2022, vaccine booster shots are mandatory for all fully vaccinated healthcare workers who have had a six-month period elapse since their second Moderna/Pfizer vaccine or a two-month period elapse since their J&J vaccine. Healthcare workers who are booster shot eligible (the appropriate time has elapsed since their last vaccination shot) must obtain a booster shot by March 1, 2022, as a condition of work.

As part of the order, workers whose religious beliefs prohibit them from receiving a vaccination may request an exemption from the requirement. However, workers who are exempt from the vaccination requirement will instead be required to submit to COVID-19 testing either weekly or twice weekly depending on the type of facility to which the worker is assigned.

Employees wishing to claim a religious exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement must complete and submit the attestation below. Upload this completed form using the VCHRP Employee Self Service Page.

1. In the space below, please provide a personal written and signed statement detailing the religious basis for your request to be exempt from the vaccination requirement, explaining why you are requesting this religious exemption, the religious principle(s) that guide your objections to vaccination, and the religious basis that prohibits the COVID-19 vaccination. Please attach additional documentation, if necessary. In particular, please provide an explanation for the religious basis for which you are requesting an exemption if you have already received a COVID-19 vaccination and you now seek a religious exemption for additional COVID-19 vaccinations.



2. I have held this belief system, or practiced and observed this religion since (enter date or year): _____.
3. (Check one) ☐ I have ☐ I have not received any vaccinations since reaching the age of 18.
4. If requested, I can provide a written statement or documentation, such as for example, an affidavit or other documentation from a religious leader or other person, describing my beliefs and practices, including, for example, information regarding when I embraced the belief or practice, as well as when, where, and how I adhered to the belief, practice, or observance. (Check one: ☐ Yes. ☐ No.

I, _____, am requesting an exemption from
[Employee Name]

the California Department of Public Health Officer's COVID-19 vaccination requirement based on my sincerely held religious beliefs. Furthermore, I acknowledge that as part of my exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement I will be required to submit to all COVID-19 testing as required by the California Department of Public Health Officer's Order.

Full Name (Print)

Employee ID Number

Signature

Date

Religious exemption requests will be reviewed by CEO-HR for approval.