



# South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption

## Religious Exemption Authority

Pursuant to Sections 44-29-40(A) and 44-29-180 of the South Carolina Code of Laws (2002 & Supp. 2013), and Department of Public Health Regulation 60-8: "A South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption may be granted to any student whose parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis signs the appropriate section of the South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption stating that one or more immunizations conflicts with their religious beliefs. The Certificate of Religious Exemption form may only be obtained from the local health department."

## Section I — Child's Information

*For children who attend childcare, or K-12 schools. Religious exemptions are not used by employers or higher education.*

Child's Last Name	First Name	Date of Birth

## Section II — Statement of Religious Objection

***Must be completed in the presence of a notary public.***

1. I am the (check one)  parent  legal guardian or  person in loco parentis (other person with legal custody and authority to make medical decisions) of the child named in SECTION I of this form.
2. I have received educational information online explaining the potential health outcomes for my child and others related to not vaccinating my child.
3. If my child is exposed to a disease that could be prevented with a vaccine, my child may be excluded from school or childcare by the appropriate school or childcare official. The period of exclusion will be determined by the Department of Public Health based on an assessment of public health risk.
4. I request that my child be exempt from immunizations because they conflict with my religious beliefs. I know that I may change my decision at any time and choose to complete the required vaccinations.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public of South Carolina

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

# South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption

## Instructions for Completing 1126A-ENG-DPH

### **Purpose:**

Parents/legal guardians/persons in loco parentis who have a religious objection to their child receiving required immunizations for **childcare or K-12 school entry** can use this notarized South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption form to exempt their child.

### **Instructions for Use:**

#### **Section I**

Parents/legal guardians/persons in loco parentis should open this digital South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption form in Adobe Acrobat and type their child's name and date of birth into the form. Print the form once Section I is completed. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat, visit [Adobe Acrobat](#).

If you experience technical issues entering your child's name and date of birth into the digital form, you can print the form and then print your child's name and date of birth on it.

#### **Section II**

Parents/legal guardians/persons in loco parentis should take the printed South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption form to a South Carolina notary public.

In the presence of a South Carolina notary public, you will:

1. Check the box indicating your relationship to your child.
2. Sign the form and print your name. The South Carolina notary public will add the date witnessed; print their name and the date their commission expires. A notary seal is not required.

Lastly, provide the notarized South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption form for your child to your child's school or childcare.

### **Office Mechanics & Filing:**

The digital South Carolina Certificate of Religious Exemption form is found on the DPH website ([Childhood Vaccine Exemption](#)) for parents/legal guardians/persons in loco parentis.

Completed/notarized forms are provided to a school or childcare by the child's parents/legal guardians/persons in loco parentis and are not maintained by DPH.

Religious exemptions are not used by employers or higher education.