

Vermont's Immunization Exemptions for Childcare, Schools, and Colleges

Vermont's Immunization Rule, adopted pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 1123, requires that before entry, children/students must have all the required immunizations unless exempt for medical or religious reasons.

- Medical exemptions require the signature of a health care practitioner authorized to prescribe vaccines on the state-supplied [Medical Exemption](#) form.
- To claim a [religious exemption](#), it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to print, sign and return the form to the school annually, upon school entry. Renewal is not assumed, and failure to provide documentation may result in exclusion from school.

Before signing the religious exemption form, a parent/guardian must attest to holding religious beliefs opposed to immunizations and acknowledge review of [evidence-based educational material](#) provided by the Vermont Department of Health.

Any exemption claimed may result in exclusion from child care or school during a disease outbreak if it is determined that the child/student is at risk for getting that disease and transmitting it to others. The length of time a child/student may be excluded depends on the disease and can range from several days to more than a month.

Children/students in the process of receiving all required vaccines consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) catch-up immunization schedule timeline, may be provisionally admitted without an exemption if the child/student has a scheduled appointment to receive the missing vaccine(s).

The Provisional Admittance section of the [Notice of Missing Immunizations form](#) must be signed by a health care provider and submitted by the parent/guardian to the child care/ school upon entry. The period of provisional admittance is in accordance with the CDC's catch-up immunization schedule but may not exceed six months.

Long term provisional admittance is **not** allowed. More information and forms can be found on the [Department of Health Immunization Page](#).



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