



Public Health Law

Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

State School Immunization Requirements and Vaccine Exemption Laws

State laws establish vaccination requirements for school children. These vaccination laws often apply not only to children attending public schools, but also to those attending private, parochial, and other types of schools.¹ State laws also offer exemptions to school vaccination requirements, including medical, religious, and philosophical exemptions or some combination of these exemptions.²

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) Public Health Law Program (PHLP), within the Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support, has conducted an assessment of state statutes, regulations, and state health department policies (collectively referred to as "laws") regarding school vaccinations. This document is a 2019 update³ of state vaccination laws originally collected in 2015 and updated previously in 2017. This 2019 assessment addresses vaccinations required for grades K-12; it does not include vaccinations required for preschool children only or for higher education. Each section of the menu below provides examples of state laws on school vaccination requirements or examples of laws about exemptions from those requirements. The appendices provide data on laws from all fifty states collected in the 2019 assessment.

For questions related to this document or to request updates to relevant immunization laws for your state, please email PHLP at PHLawProgram@cdc.gov. Note that the information contained in this document was collected for research and educational purposes. Please contact your local or state health department for school vaccination requirements that may apply to your individual circumstances.

State Vaccination Requirements in K-12 Schools

All states require children to be vaccinated against certain communicable diseases as a condition for school attendance.⁴ Most state school vaccination laws expressly apply to both public and private schools.⁵ Homeschools are expressly covered by school vaccination requirements in several states.⁶

¹ See, e.g., Colo. Rev. Stat. § 25-4-901; Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302A-901; N.Y. Public Health Law § 2164; N.D. Cent. Code § 23-07-17.1; Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1200-14-01-.29; Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.210.080.

² See, e.g., Ala. Code § 16-30-3; Cal. Health & Safety Code § 120370; Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302A-1156; Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-221; Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.671(B)(4), (5); W. Va. Code § 16-3-4.

³ PHLP collected statutes and regulations using a search in the legal database Westlaw on July 8-9, 2019. Policy documents for the 2019–2020 school year were collected from state websites between January and March 2020.

⁴ See, e.g., Fla. Stat. § 1003.22; Nev. Rev. Stat. § 394.192; Va. Code Ann. § 32.1-46.

⁵ See, e.g., Ala. Code § 160-30-4; Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.1177; N.C. Gen. Stat. § 130A-155.

⁶ See, e.g., Minn. Stat. § 121A.15; Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3050; Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-271.4. Additional jurisdictions may have vaccination requirements for homeschools; PHLP did not conduct a 50-state assessment on coverage of homeschools by state school vaccination laws.

Required Vaccines for Entry into Kindergarten and Later Grades

Four common childhood vaccines—DTaP, MMR, polio, and varicella—are required for children to enroll in kindergarten in almost every state.⁷ Many states require the meningococcal (meningitis) vaccine for entry into later grades, often at 7th grade.⁸ Some states require additional vaccines, either for entry into kindergarten or for entry into later grades.

- **Alaska** is one of several states that require hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines for entry into kindergarten: “Before entry in a state public school district or nonpublic school offering pre-elementary education through the 12th grade, or any combination of these grades, a child shall be immunized against (1) diphtheria, tetanus, polio, pertussis, measles, mumps, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and rubella, except rubella is not required in children 12 years of age or older; and (2) beginning July 1, 2009, varicella.”⁹
- For entry into later grades, **Rhode Island** requires the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, according to the following schedule: “Beginning August 1, 2015, all students entering seventh (7th) grade shall be required to have at least one (1) dose of the HPV vaccine series. Beginning August 1, 2016, all students entering eighth (8th) grade shall be required to have at least two (2) doses of the HPV vaccine series. Beginning August 1, 2017, all students entering ninth (9th) grade shall be required to have completed the HPV vaccine series (3 doses).”¹⁰

Acceptable Proof of Immunization

State laws vary on the types of acceptable proof of immunization for enrollment in grades K-12. Among the different types of acceptable documentation are medical records, a health department or school form, information from the state’s Immunization Information System (IIS), or a “certificate of immunization,” which may be issued by, for example, a state health department or a physician’s office.¹¹ In a few states, a parental report is allowed.¹²

- **Kentucky** requires a “current Commonwealth of Kentucky Certificate of Immunization,” which “shall be issued by: (a) A physician licensed in any state; (b) An advanced practice registered nurse licensed in any state; (c) A physician assistant licensed in Kentucky; (d) A pharmacist licensed in Kentucky; (e) A local health department in Kentucky; (f) A licensed healthcare facility administering immunizations in Kentucky; or (g) An authorized user of the Kentucky Immunization Registry.”¹³
- **Minnesota** allows for substitution of a parental report in place of other records: “A person who is enrolling or enrolled in an elementary or secondary school . . . may substitute a statement from . . . a parent or guardian if the person is a minor child in lieu of the statement from a physician or public clinic which provides immunizations. If the statement is from a parent or guardian or emancipated person, the statement must indicate the month and year of each immunization given.”¹⁴

⁷ See, e.g., Ark. Code R. § 005.15.23-3.0; 6 Colo. Code. Regs §1009-2; Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 511-2-2-.02; Md. Code Regs. 10.06.04.03. DTaP protects against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (whooping cough); MMR protects against measles, mumps, and rubella. The only state that does not require all the listed vaccines is Iowa, which does not require a mumps vaccine. Iowa Code § 139A.8.

⁸ E.g., Del. Admin. Code § 804; 05-071-26 Me. Code R. § 5; 216 R.I. Code R. § 30-0503.5.

⁹ Alaska Admin. Code tit 4, § 06.055(a)(1).

¹⁰ 216 R.I. Code R. § 30-05-3.5.

¹¹ See, e.g., Alaska Admin. Code tit. 4, § 06.055; Ark. Admin. Code § 005.15.23-4.0; 902 Ky. Admin. Regs 2:060; S.C. Code Ann. Regs. R. 61-8; Vt. Admin. Code § 12-5-5:9.0.

¹² See, e.g., Minn. Stat. § 121A.15(Subd.4); Or. Rev. Stat. § 433.267(1)(a).

¹³ 902 Ky. Admin. Regs 2:060.

¹⁴ Minn. Stat. § 121A.15(Subd.4).

states on the types of non-medical exemptions offered. In addition, most states allow students to be exempt from only certain vaccination requirements; often the state will require the physician or parent to specify which vaccines are to be considered in the exemption process.¹⁶ On occasion, a state will prohibit non-medical exemptions from specific vaccines.¹⁷

- **California** allows only medical exemptions: “If the parent or guardian files with the governing authority a written statement by a licensed physician to the effect that the physical condition of the child is such, or medical circumstances relating to the child are such, that immunization is not considered safe, indicating the specific nature and probable duration of the medical condition or circumstances, including, but not limited to, family medical history, for which the physician does not recommend immunization, that child shall be exempt from the requirements of Chapter 1 . . . to the extent indicated by the physician’s statement.”¹⁸
- **North Dakota**, which allows medical and religious exemptions, requires the physician or parent to specify the vaccines: “A child with a medical or a beliefs exemption is exempt from any one or all of the immunization requirements. A physician must sign an exemption form indicating the vaccines that are included in the medical exemption. A parent or guardian must sign an exemption form stating that the child has a beliefs exemption and indicate which vaccines are exempt because of beliefs.”¹⁹
- **Washington** state allows medical, religious, and philosophical exemptions, but it does not allow philosophical exemptions for the MMR vaccine. A child will be exempt from the state’s school vaccination requirements for philosophical reasons “upon the presentation of . . . [a] written certification signed by any parent or legal guardian of the child or any adult in loco parentis to the child that the signator has either a philosophical or personal objection to the immunization of the child. A philosophical or personal objection may not be used to exempt a child from the measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine.”²⁰

Parental Acknowledgement of Exclusion from School During an Outbreak

State laws often require parental acknowledgment during the exemption application process that exempted students can be excluded from school during an outbreak or epidemic.²¹

- Under **Arkansas** law, exemption applications require parents to sign a statement of understanding that “[a]t the discretion of the Department of Health, the unimmunized child or individual may be removed from day care or school during an outbreak if the child or individual is not fully vaccinated.”²²
- Under **Georgia** law, a parent seeking a religious exemption must sign an affidavit stating, “I understand that, notwithstanding my religious objections, my child may be excluded from childcare facilities or schools during an epidemic or threatened epidemic of any disease preventable by a vaccination required by the Georgia Department of Public Health, and that my

¹⁶ See, e.g., Mich. Admin. Code r. 325.176; Minn. Stat. Ann. § 121A.15(3); N.D. Admin. Code 33-06-05-01(4); S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-8(11)(A); Utah Code Ann. 1953 § 53G-9-304.

¹⁷ E.g., Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.210.090.

¹⁸ Cal. Health & Safety Code § 120370.

¹⁹ N.D. Admin. Code 33-06-05-01(4).

²⁰ Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.210.090.

²¹ See, e.g., Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-702(d)(4)(C)(iv); Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 511-2-2-.07; Ill. Admin. Code tit. 77, § 665.510.

²² Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-702(d)(4)(C)(iv).

child may be required to receive a vaccination in the event that such a disease is in epidemic stages.”²³

- In **Illinois**, parents seeking a religious exemption must sign a Certificate of Religious Exemption describing the objection, which “shall also reflect the parent’s or legal guardian’s understanding of the school’s exclusion policies in the case of a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak or exposure.”²⁴

Exemptions Might Not Be Recognized During an Outbreak

In some cases, state law establishes that exemptions might not be recognized during an outbreak, epidemic, or emergency.²⁵

- Under **Hawaii** law, “[i]f at any time there is, in the opinion of the department of health, danger of an epidemic from any of the communicable diseases for which immunization is required under sections 302A-1154 to 302A-1163, no exemption from immunization against the disease shall be recognized.”²⁶
- **Kentucky** law allows for medical and religious exemptions “[p]rovided, however, that in the event of an epidemic in a given area, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services may, by emergency regulation, require the immunization of all persons within the area of epidemic, against the disease responsible for such epidemic.”²⁷
- Under **North Dakota** law, “[w]hen, in the opinion of the health officer, danger of an epidemic exists from any of the communicable diseases for which immunization is required under this section, the exemptions from immunization against such disease may not be recognized and children not immunized must be excluded from an institution listed in subsection 1 until, in the opinion of the health officer, the danger of the epidemic is over.”²⁸

Requirement for Notarization in Exemption Application

Some states require notarization of the forms or other statements associated with the exemption application, most often with non-medical exemptions.²⁹

- **Arkansas** requires a “notarized statement requesting a religious, philosophical, or medical exemption from the Department of Health by the parents or legal guardian of the child.”³⁰
- **Minnesota** law allows for philosophical exemptions with “a notarized statement signed by the minor child’s parent or guardian . . . stating that the person has not been immunized . . . because of the conscientiously held beliefs of the parent or guardian of the minor child.”³¹
- **Virginia** law states that “[n]o certificate of immunization shall be required for the admission to school of any student if [t]he student or his parent or guardian submits a notarized Certificate of

²³ Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 511-2-2-.07.

²⁴ Ill. Admin. Code tit. 77, § 665.510.

²⁵ See, e.g., Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302A-1157; Ky. Rev. Stat. § 214.036; N.D. Cent. Code § 23-07-17.1(6).

²⁶ Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302A-1157.

²⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 214.036.

²⁸ N. D. Cent. Code § 23-07-17.1(6).

²⁹ See, e.g., Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-702(d)(1)(4)(C); Minn. Stat. Ann. § 121A.15(3)(d); Va. Admin. Code § 5-110-80(A)(1).

³⁰ Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-702(d)(1)(4)(C); Ark. Admin. Code § 005.15.23-5.0(5.01.1).

³¹ Minn. Stat. Ann. § 121A.15(3)(d).

Religious Exemption . . . stating that the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with the student's religious tenets or practices.”³²

Requirement That Exemption Application Process Include Parental Education

Several states require that their exemption process include an educational component that discusses the benefits of vaccination and the risks of not being vaccinated. This requirement is more frequently associated with religious and philosophical exemptions.³³

- **Arizona's** philosophical exemption application requires “a signed statement to the school administrator stating that the parent or guardian has received information about immunizations provided by the department of health services and understands the risks and benefits of immunizations and the potential risks of nonimmunization.”³⁴
- **Vermont's** religious exemption application requires that an applicant “has reviewed evidence-based educational material provided by the Department regarding immunizations, including: (i) information about the risks of adverse reactions to immunization; (ii) information that failure to complete the required vaccination schedule increases risk to the person and others of contracting or carrying a vaccine-preventable infectious disease; and (iii) information that there are persons with special health needs attending schools and child care facilities who are unable to be vaccinated or who are at heightened risk of contracting a vaccine-preventable communicable disease and for whom such a disease could be life-threatening.”³⁵
- **Oregon's** process for religious and philosophical exemptions must include either “(i) A signature from a health care practitioner verifying that the health care practitioner has reviewed with the parent information about the risks and benefits of immunization . . . or (ii) A certificate verifying that the parent has completed a vaccine educational module.”³⁶

Duration of Exemptions

Many states expressly address the duration of an exemption, most often in relation to medical exemptions. This includes, for example, whether an exemption is temporary, permanent, or, for medical exemptions, within the physician's discretion.³⁷

- In **Georgia**, “[a] Certificate of Immunization indicating medical exemption shall be valid for one year, and may be reissued from year to year until the physician determines that immunization or a specific immunization may finally be accomplished without danger to the child's health.”³⁸
- In **New Mexico**, medical and religious exemptions “are valid for a period not to exceed nine (9) months and will not extend beyond the end of the school year in which the child is currently enrolled.”³⁹
- **West Virginia** law states that “[i]f a child has been granted an exemption from receiving one or more vaccinations, the certificate of immunization must indicate the vaccine(s) for which the

³² Va. Admin. Code § 5-110-80(A)(1).

³³ See, e.g., Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-873; Or. Rev. Stat. § 433.267(1)(c); Or. Admin. R. 333-050-0040(1)(d); Utah Code Ann. 1953 § 53G-9-304; Vt. Stat. Ann. 18 § 1122(a)(3); Wash. Rev. Code § 28A.210.090(2)(a).

³⁴ Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-873.

³⁵ Vt. Stat. Ann. 18 § 1122(a)(3).

³⁶ Or. Rev. Stat. § 433.267(1)(c); Or. Admin. R. 333-050-0040(1)(d).

³⁷ See, e.g., Conn. Agencies Regs. § 10-204a-3a; Ga Comp. R. & Regs. 511-2-2-.05; Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-6262(b)(1); Mont. Admin. R. 37.114.715; N.M. Stat. Ann. § 24-5-3(B); W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-14.

³⁸ Ga Comp. R. & Regs. 511-2-2-.05.

³⁹ N.M. Stat. Ann. § 24-5-3(B).

child is exempted, the reason for the exemption, and whether or not the reason for the exemption is permanent or temporary.”⁴⁰

See **APPENDIX B**, Tables B1 and B2, for state data on exemptions. State data on additional variables examined in the 2019 assessment but not discussed above can be found in **APPENDIX C**.⁴¹ Citations to state statutes and regulations relied on for Tables A, B, and C are presented in **APPENDIX D**.

Acknowledgments and Disclaimers

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PHLP provides technical assistance and public health law resources to advance the use of law as a public health tool. PHLP cannot provide legal advice on any issue and cannot represent any individual or entity in any matter. PHLP recommends seeking the advice of an attorney or other qualified professional with questions regarding the application of law to a specific circumstance. The findings and conclusions in this summary are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of CDC.

⁴⁰ W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-14(14.2).

⁴¹ The 2019 update asked some additional questions about state school immunization requirements not summarized in this document. Among these are: (1) Is a specific form required for an exemption; (2) Is a parental signature required for an exemption; (3) Does the exemption require a medical practitioner’s signature; (4) Does the exemption require additional documentation other than a standard form or statement from a parent; (5) Does the exemption require governmental approval to be valid; and (6) For medical exemptions only, does the state require a provider to specify a condition or other medical reason that prevents the student from being vaccinated.

Appendix A: Table A1 Vaccines Required for Entry into Kindergarten and Later Grades (K-12) (2019)

State	Which of the following vaccines are required for children to enroll in kindergarten?							Which of the following vaccines are required for the first time for children to enter grades other than kindergarten?		
	DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)	MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)	Polio	Varicella	Hep A	Hep B	Other	Meningitis	HPV	Other
Alabama	X	X	X	X						
Alaska	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Arizona	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Arkansas	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
California	X	X	X	X		X				
Colorado	X	X	X	X		X				
Connecticut	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Delaware	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Florida	X	X	X	X		X				
Georgia	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Hawaii	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
Idaho	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Illinois	X	X	X	X				X		X ⁱ
Indiana	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Iowa	X	X ⁱⁱ	X	X		X		X		
Kansas	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Kentucky	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Louisiana	X	X	X	X				X		
Maine	X	X	X	X				X		
Maryland	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Massachusetts	X	X	X	X		X				
Michigan	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Minnesota	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Mississippi	X	X	X	X		X				
Missouri	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Montana	X	X	X	X						
Nebraska	X	X	X	X		X				
Nevada	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
New Hampshire	X	X	X	X		X				
New Jersey	X	X	X	X		X		X		
New Mexico	X	X	X	X		X				
New York	X	X	X	X		X		X		
North Carolina	X	X	X	X		X	X ⁱⁱⁱ	X		
North Dakota	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Ohio	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Oklahoma	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Oregon	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Pennsylvania	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Rhode Island	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
South Carolina	X	X	X	X	X	X				
South Dakota	X	X	X	X				X		
Tennessee	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Texas	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Utah	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Vermont	X	X	X	X		X				
Virginia	X	X	X	X		X			X	
Washington	X	X	X	X		X				
West Virginia	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Wisconsin	X	X	X	X		X				
Wyoming	X	X	X	X		X				

Legend: "X" = yes; blank = no or not specified

Appendix A: Table A2 Acceptable Proof of Vaccination (2019)

State	Which of the following are accepted by the state as proof of immunization?						
	Immunization Information System (IIS)	Provider medical records or printout	Health department or school form or record	Parental report	Certificate of Immunization	Other	Not specified
Alabama			X		X		
Alaska		X			X		
Arizona	X	X	X				
Arkansas	X	X	X				
California	X	X	X				
Colorado	X	X	X		X		
Connecticut							X
Delaware		X					
Florida	X	X	X		X		
Georgia	X	X	X		X		
Hawaii	X	X					
Idaho	X	X			X		
Illinois							X
Indiana	X	X	X				
Iowa					X		
Kansas					X		
Kentucky	X	X			X		
Louisiana		X	X		X		
Maine		X	X		X		
Maryland		X	X		X		
Massachusetts		X	X		X		
Michigan		X	X		X		
Minnesota		X		X			
Mississippi			X		X		
Missouri	X	X	X		X		
Montana	X	X	X				
Nebraska						X ^{iv}	
Nevada	X				X		
New Hampshire						X ^v	
New Jersey	X	X	X		X		
New Mexico	X	X			X		
New York	X	X	X		X		
North Carolina		X	X		X		
North Dakota	X	X	X		X	X ^{vi}	
Ohio							X
Oklahoma							X
Oregon	X	X	X	X	X		
Pennsylvania		X	X		X		
Rhode Island	X	X	X				
South Carolina	X		X		X		
South Dakota	X		X	X	X		
Tennessee	X				X		
Texas						X ^{vii}	
Utah		X	X				
Vermont	X	X	X		X		
Virginia		X	X		X		
Washington	X		X		X		
West Virginia	X	X	X		X		
Wisconsin			X				
Wyoming	X	X	X				

Legend: "X" = yes; blank = no or not specified

Appendix B: Table B1 State Vaccination Exemption Laws (2019)

State	Which types of exemptions are permitted in this state?			Does the state allow students to be exempt from only certain vaccination requirements?		Do any exemptions require a parent to acknowledge that their child may be excluded from school in the event of an outbreak?	
	Medical	Religious	Philosophical	Medical	Non-medical	Medical	Non-medical
Alabama	X	X		X	X		
Alaska	X	X		X			X
Arizona	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Arkansas	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
California	X			X	n/a		n/a
Colorado	X	X	X	X	X		
Connecticut ^{viii}	X	X		X		X	X
Delaware	X	X		X		X	X
Florida	X	X		X			
Georgia	X	X		X			X
Hawaii	X	X		X			
Idaho	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Illinois	X	X		X	X		X
Indiana	X	X		X		X	X
Iowa	X	X		X			X
Kansas	X	X		X			
Kentucky	X	X		X	X		X
Louisiana	X	X	X			X	X
Maine ^{ix}	X	X	X	X			
Maryland	X	X		X	X		
Massachusetts	X	X		X			
Michigan	X	X	X	X	X		X
Minnesota	X	X	X	X	X		X
Mississippi	X			X	n/a		n/a
Missouri	X	X		X	X		X
Montana	X	X		X	X		X
Nebraska	X	X		X			
Nevada	X	X		X	X		
New Hampshire	X	X		X			X
New Jersey	X	X					
New Mexico	X	X		X	X	X	X
New York	X			X	n/a		n/a
North Carolina	X	X		X			
North Dakota	X	X	X	X	X		X
Ohio	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Oklahoma	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Oregon	X	X	X	X	X		X
Pennsylvania	X	X	X		X		
Rhode Island	X	X		X	X		X
South Carolina	X	X		X	X		
South Dakota	X	X		X			
Tennessee	X	X		X			
Texas	X	X	X	X			
Utah	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Vermont	X	X		X	X		X
Virginia	X	X		X			X
Washington	X	X	X ^x	X	X	X	X
West Virginia	X			X	n/a		n/a
Wisconsin	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Wyoming	X	X		X	X	X	X

Legend: "X" = yes; blank = no or not specified; "n/a" indicates the state has no non-medical exemptions

Appendix B: Table B2 State Vaccination Exemption Laws (2019)

State	Does the state disallow any exemptions in the event of an emergency, epidemic, or outbreak?		Does the state require exemption documentation to be notarized?		Does the state require parental education prior to granting the exemption?		Does the state expressly address the duration of an exemption?	
	Medical	Non-medical	Medical	Non-medical	Medical	Non-medical	Medical	Non-medical
Alabama		X						
Alaska				X				X
Arizona						X	X	
Arkansas			X	X	X	X	X	X
California		n/a		n/a		n/a	X	n/a
Colorado	X	X					X	X
Connecticut				X			X	X
Delaware				X			X	
Florida							X	
Georgia		X		X			X	
Hawaii	X	X					X	
Idaho							X	X
Illinois						X	X	X
Indiana							X	X
Iowa	X	X		X			X	
Kansas							X	
Kentucky	X	X		X			X	
Louisiana								
Maine							X	X
Maryland		X					X	
Massachusetts		X						
Michigan						X	X	X
Minnesota				X				
Mississippi		n/a		n/a		n/a	X	n/a
Missouri							X	X
Montana				X			X	X
Nebraska				X				
Nevada	X	X	X	X			X	X
New Hampshire				X			X	
New Jersey							X	
New Mexico			X	X			X	X
New York		n/a		n/a		n/a	X	n/a
North Carolina							X	
North Dakota	X	X					X	X
Ohio								
Oklahoma								
Oregon						X	X	
Pennsylvania							X	
Rhode Island						X		
South Carolina				X			X	
South Dakota								
Tennessee		X						
Texas				X			X	X
Utah					X	X	X	X
Vermont						X	X	X
Virginia		X		X			X	
Washington					X	X	X	
West Virginia		n/a		n/a		n/a	X	n/a
Wisconsin								
Wyoming								

Legend: "X" = yes; blank = no or not specified; "n/a" indicates the state has no non-medical exemptions

Appendix C: Table C1 Additional Variables - State Vaccination Exemption Laws (2019)

State	Is a specific form required for an exemption?		Is a parental signature required for an exemption?		Does the exemption require a medical practitioner's signature?	
	Medical	Non-medical	Medical	Non-medical	Medical	Non-medical
Alabama	X	X				
Alaska	X	X		X	X	
Arizona	X	X	X	X	X	
Arkansas	X	X	X	X		
California		n/a		n/a	X	n/a
Colorado	X			X	X	
Connecticut	X	X	X	X	X	
Delaware	X	X	X	X	X	
Florida	X	X			X	
Georgia	X	X		X	X	
Hawaii				X	X	
Idaho				X	X	
Illinois		X		X	X	X
Indiana	X		X	X	X	
Iowa	X	X		X	X	
Kansas	X			X	X	
Kentucky	X	X		X	X	X
Louisiana	X	X	X	X		
Maine						
Maryland	X	X		X	X	
Massachusetts						
Michigan	X	X		X	X	
Minnesota	X	X		X	X	
Mississippi	X	n/a		n/a	X	n/a
Missouri	X	X		X	X	
Montana	X	X		X	X	
Nebraska	X	X		X	X	
Nevada	X	X	X		X	
New Hampshire		X		X		
New Jersey				X		
New Mexico	X	X	X	X	X	
New York	X	n/a		n/a	X	n/a
North Carolina	X				X	
North Dakota	X	X		X	X	
Ohio	X	X	X	X	X	
Oklahoma	X	X	X	X	X	
Oregon	X	X		X	X	
Pennsylvania	X	X		X	X	
Rhode Island	X	X		X	X	
South Carolina	X	X		X	X	
South Dakota	X	X		X	X	
Tennessee	X			X		
Texas		X		X	X	
Utah	X	X	X	X	X	
Vermont	X	X		X	X	
Virginia	X	X		X	X	
Washington	X	X	X	X	X	X
West Virginia	X	n/a	X	n/a	X	n/a
Wisconsin	X	X	X	X	X	
Wyoming	X		X	X	X	

Legend: "X" = yes; blank = no or not specified; "n/a" indicates the state has no non-medical exemptions

Appendix C: Table C2 Additional Variables - State Vaccination Exemption Laws (2019)

State	Does the exemption require additional documentation other than a standard form or statement?		Does the exemption require governmental approval to be valid?		For medical exemptions only, does the state require a provider to specify a condition or other medical reason that prevents the student from being vaccinated?
	Medical	Non-medical	Medical	Non-medical	
Alabama					
Alaska					
Arizona					X
Arkansas	X	X	X		
California	X	n/a		n/a	X
Colorado					X
Connecticut	X			X	X
Delaware			X		X
Florida					X
Georgia					
Hawaii					X
Idaho					
Illinois				X	X
Indiana					X
Iowa					
Kansas					
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland					X
Massachusetts			X		
Michigan					X
Minnesota					
Mississippi		n/a	X	n/a	X
Missouri	X				
Montana	X				X
Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire					
New Jersey					X
New Mexico	X	X	X	X	
New York		n/a	X	n/a	X
North Carolina	X		X ^{vi}		X
North Dakota					
Ohio	X				X
Oklahoma					X
Oregon	X	X	X		X
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island					X
South Carolina					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					X
Utah	X	X			
Vermont					X
Virginia					X
Washington		X			
West Virginia	X	n/a	X	n/a	X
Wisconsin					
Wyoming			X	X	

Legend: "X" = yes; blank = no or not specified; "n/a" indicates the state has no non-medical exemptions

Appendix D: Citations – Statutes and Regulations

References for Table Data: Statutes and Regulations by State^{xii}

State	Statutes and Regulations
Alabama	Ala. Code § 16-30-3; Ala. Code § 16-30-4; Ala. Admin. Code r. 420-6-1-.02; Ala. Admin. Code r. 420-6-1-.03
Alaska	Alaska Admin. Code tit. 4, § 06.055
Arizona	Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-873; Ariz. Admin. Code § 9-6-702; Ariz. Admin. Code § 9-6-704; Ariz. Admin. Code § 9-6-706
Arkansas	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-702; Ark. Admin. Code 005.15.1-II; Ark. Admin. Code 005.15.1-III; Ark. Admin. Code 005.15.23-3.0; Ark. Admin. Code 005.15.23-4.0; Ark. Admin. Code 005.15.23-5.0
California	Cal. Health & Safety Code § 120335; Cal. Health & Safety Code § 120370; Cal. Code Regs. tit. 17, § 6025; Cal. Code Regs. tit. 17, § 6065; Cal. Code Regs. tit. 17, § 6070
Colorado	Colo. Rev. Stat. § 25-4-901; Colo. Rev. Stat. § 25-4-902; Colo. Rev. Stat. § 25-4-903; Colo. Rev. Stat. § 25-4-908; 6 Colo. Code Regs. § 1009-2:II; 6 Colo. Code Regs. § 1009-2:III; 6 Colo. Code Regs. § 1009-2:VI
Connecticut	Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a; Conn. Agencies Regs. § 10-204a-2a; Conn. Agencies Regs. § 10-204a-3a
Delaware	14 Del. Code Ann. § 131; 14 Del. Admin. Code § 804; 16 Del. Admin. Code § 4202-7.0
Florida	Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1003.22; Fla. Admin. Code Ann. r. 64D-3.046
Georgia	Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-771; Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 511-2-2-.02; Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 511-2-2-.04; Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 511-2-2-.05; Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 511-2-2-.06; Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 511-2-2-.07
Hawaii	Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302A-1156; Haw. Rev. Stat. § 321-11; Haw. Rev. Stat. § 325-124; Haw. Code R. § 11-157 Exhibit B; Haw. Code R. § 11-157-3.05; Haw. Code R. § 11-157-5
Idaho	Idaho Admin. Code r. 16.02.15.010; Idaho Admin. Code r. 16.02.15.100; Idaho Admin. Code r. 16.02.15.102; Idaho Admin. Code r. 16.02.15.110
Illinois	105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/27-8.1; Ill. Adm. Code tit. 77, § 665.240; Ill. Adm. Code tit. 77, § 665.510; Ill. Adm. Code tit. 77, § 665.520; Ill. Adm. Code tit. 77, § Adm. Code 698.50
Indiana	Ind. Code § 20-34-4-2; Ind. Code § 20-34-4-5
Iowa	Iowa Code Ann. § 139A.8; Iowa Admin. Code r. 641-7.3(139A)
Kansas	Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-6262(b); Kan. Admin. Regs. § 28-1-20(b)
Kentucky	Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 214.034; Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 214.036; 902 Ky. Admin. Regs. 2:060
Louisiana	La. Stat. Ann. § 17:170; La. Admin Code. tit. 28, Pt CLVII, § 303; La. Admin Code. tit. 28, Pt LXXIX, § 1101; La. Admin Code. tit. 51, Pt II, § 701
Maine	Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 20-A, § 6355; Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 20-A, § 6359; 05-071 Me. Code R. Ch. 126, §§ 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6
Maryland	Md. Code Regs. 10.06.04.03; Md. Code Regs. 10.06.04.04; Md. Code Regs. 10.06.04.05
Massachusetts	Mass. Gen. Laws Ann. ch. 76, § 15; 105 Mass. Code Regs. 220.500
Michigan	Mich. Admin. Code r. 325.176
Minnesota	Minn. Stat. Ann. § 121A.15; Minn. R. 4604.0430; Minn. R. 4604.0600; Minn. R. 4604.0810; Minn. R. 4604.0900; Minn. R. 4604.1020
Mississippi	Miss. Code Ann. § 41-23-37; 7 Miss. Admin. Code T. 7, Pt. 8
Missouri	Mo. Ann. Stat. § 167.181(3); Mo. Ann. Stat. § 210.003; 19 Mo. Code Regs. 20-28.010
Montana	Mont. Code Ann. § 20-5-403; Mont. Code Ann. § 20-5-405; Mont. Admin. R. 37.114.703; Mont. Admin. R. 37.114.715; Mont. Admin. R. 37.114.716
Nebraska	Neb. Rev. St. § 79-221; 173 Neb. Admin. Code Ch. 3, § 008; 173 Neb. Admin. Code Ch. 3, § 009 (3-009.01); 173 Neb. Admin. Code Ch. 3, § 010

Nevada	Nev. Rev. Stat. § 392.435; Nev. Rev. Stat. § 392.437; Nev. Rev. Stat. § 392.439; Nev. Rev. Stat. § 394.192; Nev. Rev. Stat. § 394.193; Nev. Rev. Stat. § 394.194; Nev. Rev. Stat. § 392.446; Nev. Admin. Code § 392.105; Nev. Admin. Code § 439.897
New Hampshire	N.H. Rev. Stat.141-c:20-c; N.H. Code Admin. R. He-P 301.13; N.H. Code Admin. R. Ed 311.01
New Jersey	N.J. Admin. Code § 3A:52-7.3; N.J. Admin. Code § 8:57-4.3; N.J. Admin. Code § 8:57-4.4; N.J. Admin. Code § 8:57-4.6; N.J. Admin Code § 8:57-4.10; N.J. Admin. Code § 8:57-4.11; N.J. Admin. Code § 8:57-4.12; N.J. Admin. Code § 8:57-4.16; N.J. Admin Code § 8:57-4.17; N.J. Admin. Code § 8:57-3.18
New Mexico	N.M. Code R. § 6.12.2; N.M. Code R. § 7.5.2; N.M. Code R. § 7.5.2.9; N.M. Code R. § 7.5.3; N.M. Code R. § 7.5.3.9
New York	N.Y. Public Health Law § 2164; N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 10, § 66-1.1; N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 10, § 66-1.3; N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 10, § 66-1.5; N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 10, § 66-1.6
North Carolina	N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 130A-154; N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 130A-155; N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 130A-157; 10A N.C. Admin. Code 41A.0401
North Dakota	N.D. Cent. Code § 23-07-17.1; N.D. Admin. Code 33-06-05-01
Ohio	Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.671
Oklahoma	Okla. St. Ann. tit. 70, § 1210.193; Okla. Admin. Code § 310:535-1-2(d)
Oregon	Or. Rev. Stat. § 433.267; Or. Admin. R. 333-050-0010; Or. Admin. R. 333-050-0240; Or. Admin. R. 333-050-0040; Or. Admin. R. 333-050-0050
Pennsylvania	24 Pa. Stat. and Cons. Stat. Ann. § 13-1303a; 28 Pa. Code § 23.82; 28 Pa. Code § 23.83; 28 Pa. Code § 23.84
Rhode Island	216 R.I. Code R. § 30-05-3.5
South Carolina	S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-8
South Dakota	S.D. Codified Laws § 13-28-7.1; S.D. Admin. R. 44:81:03:01; S.D. Admin. R. 44:81:03:02; S.D. Admin. R. 44:81:04:01
Tennessee	Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-5001; Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1200-14-01-.29
Texas	Tex. Education Code Ann. § 38.001; 25 Tex. Admin. Code § 97.62
Utah	Utah Code Ann. 1953 § 53G-9-301; Utah Code Ann. 1953 § 53G-9-303; Utah Code Ann. 1953 § 53G-9-304; Utah Admin. Code r. 396-100
Vermont	Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 18, § 1122; Vt. Admin. Code 12-5-5:6.0; Vt. Admin. Code 12-5-5:7.0; Vt. Admin. Code 12-5-5:9.0
Virginia	Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-12; Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-271.2; Va. Code Ann. § 32.1-46; 12 Va. Admin. Code § 5-110-10; 12 Va. Admin. Code § 5-110-70; 12 Va. Admin. Code § 5-110-80
Washington	WAC 246-105-030; West's RCWA 28A.210.090; WAC 246-105-020; WAC 246-105-050; WAC 392-380-020
West Virginia	W. Va. Code § 16-3-4; W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-4; W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-5; W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-6; W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-7; W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-8; W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-9; W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-14; W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-15; W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-16; W. Va. Code R. § 64-95-17; W. Va. Code R. § 126-51-6
Wisconsin	Wis. Stat. Ann. § 252.04(3); Wis. Admin. Code DHS § 144.03; Wis. Admin. Code DHS § 144.04; Wis. Admin. Code DHS § 144.05
Wyoming	048.0071-3 Wyo. Code R. § 4; 048.0071-3 Wyo. Code R. § 7; 048.0071-3 Wyo. Code R. § 5

Appendices - Notes

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- ⁱ Illinois law requires that, prior to entering the sixth grade, children receive three Hepatitis B vaccinations. Ill. Admin. Code tit. 77, § 665.240(i)(2).
- ⁱⁱ Iowa requires that children be vaccinated for measles and rubella; a mumps vaccination is not mandatory. Iowa Code Ann. § 139A.8.
- ⁱⁱⁱ North Carolina also requires the Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine for entry into kindergarten. N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Immunization Branch. K-12 School Requirements (March 10, 2020).
- ^{iv} Nebraska law requires presentation of an “immunization history,” which includes the name of the vaccine and the date of administration. 173 Neb. Admin. Code § 3-009.01.
- ^v New Hampshire requires “written authenticated evidence” of immunization. N.H. Code Admin. R. Ann. He-P 301.13, 301.01(n).
- ^{vi} North Dakota law specifies that “other official proof of immunization” is also acceptable. N.D. Admin. Code § 33-06-05-01.
- ^{vii} Texas notes that “any document will be acceptable provided a physician or public health personnel [sic] has validated it.” Texas Dept. State Health Services. 2019-2020 Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Students Grades K-12. Revised March 2019.
- ^{viii} Effective April 28, 2021, Connecticut law no longer provides for a religious exemption from required school vaccinations, except for students enrolled in K-12 who had a religious exemption prior to that date. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204(a) (2021).
- ^{ix} Effective September 1, 2021, Maine repealed its religious and philosophical exemptions. 2019 Me. Legis. Serv. Ch. 154.
- ^x An exception to the Washington state philosophical exemption is that it may not be used to exempt a child from the measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine. Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.210.090.
- ^{xi} Medical exemptions require approval of the State Health Director only if based on a contraindication not on the list adopted by the Commission of Public Health. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 130A-156.
- ^{xii} The citations in the table in Appendix D are state statutes and regulations relied upon for the tables in Appendices A, B, and C. The list of state laws is not exhaustive: other statutes and regulations may be relevant. In addition, PHLP reviewed and relied upon state school vaccination policy documents and forms retrieved for the year assessed (2019-2020 school year). If you would like additional information about these state documents, please contact PHLP at PHLawProgram@cdc.gov.