

Nonmedical Exemptions

Oregon recognizes exemptions for nonmedical reasons. Information about nonmedical exemptions can be found here:

www.healthoregon.org/vaccineexemption.

To claim a nonmedical exemption, a parent must submit a Vaccine Education Certificate from a healthcare practitioner or from the online education module to the child's school or childcare. In addition, the parent must check the appropriate boxes and sign the back of the Certificate of Immunization Status, available from the child's school or childcare facility. Listing a vaccination history on the front of the Certificate of Immunization Status will not affect a parent's ability to claim an exemption.

In case of an outbreak of vaccine-preventable disease in a community, the local health department has the legal authority to exclude from school or child care attendance any child who has not been completely immunized, including children with a nonmedical exemption.

Medical Exemptions

Oregon allows medical exemptions for children who have a medical condition that contraindicates vaccination. Only physicians or local health departments may sign a medical exemption. Children with this type of medical exemption are considered susceptible because if they are exposed to a disease they haven't been vaccinated for, they are likely to get it.

Medical exemptions must be in a letter from a physician or local health department supplementing the Certificate of Immunization Status. The letter must include the child's name and birth date, vaccine(s) affected, the condition that contraindicates vaccination as well as the physician's or local health department representative's signature and contact information.

In case of an outbreak of vaccine-preventable disease in a community, the local health department has the legal authority to exclude from school or childcare attendance any child who has not been completely immunized, including children with a medical exemption.

Immunity Documentation

Immunity documentation indicates that the child had a disease or had a blood test showing immunity. Children with this kind of immunity cannot get the disease, so they are considered complete for the vaccines from which they have immunity documentation. Immunity documentation requires a letter signed by a licensed physician stating the child's name, birthdate, diagnosis or lab report, and the physician's signature and date. Immunity documentation can be signed for Hib disease that occurred at or after 2 years of age, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, hepatitis A and hepatitis B.

A letter from a physician is not required for children who had chickenpox disease. Parents may sign a statement that a child has had chickenpox disease.