## What you should know:

Each state in the United States has different vaccine laws. Vaccine laws in each state are measured by something called exemptions. Exemptions are ways to opt-out of vaccinations and vaccine requirements for students in school. This is now more important than ever since the covid vaccination has been added to the childhood vaccine schedule. While some private schools may not care about vaccine exemptions or requirements, this is not a guarantee. State laws are a way to really know which states will be good for medical freedom across the board. Since covid restrictions are changing constantly, I suggest going to state government websites and other sources to see what restrictions are currently in place. To find out more about what types of homeschooling are allowed in the state you are looking at, go to the HSLDA website (Homeschool Legal Defense Association). Currently every state with vaccine mandates for schools has no requirements for homeschoolers.

#### Vaccine Exemption Types

Medical Exemptions: This is an exemption from vaccines for medical reasons. 6 states only allow medical exemptions, effectively making these states having mandatory/compulsory vaccinations, similar to what you may see in countries like France.

Religious exemptions: This is an exemption from vaccines for religious reasons. States with just medical and religious exemptions vary in how strict their religious exemptions are. In some states, you have to say want religion you practice to get an exemption, whereas in other states usually in the south such as Florida where it's codified by law, Georgia, and South Carolina, they tend to not ask you about your private religious beliefs at all, making it very similar to a personal exemption.

Personal/Philosophical Exemptions: This is an exemption from vaccines for an ethical, moral, personal, philosophical, or other reason/belief. Only 15 states allow and list these exemptions. This effectively makes vaccinations completely consensual. States with three exemptions also adhere similarly to federal law, which states that you cannot discriminate against an applicant (students can be applicants), and employees for any ethical or moral belief along with religious beliefs.

https://www.eeoc.gov/religious-discrimination

## National Vaccine

# Information Center

This website shows vaccine laws and exemptions in each state



# Homeschool Legal Defense Association

This website shows vaccine laws in each state for homeschoolers

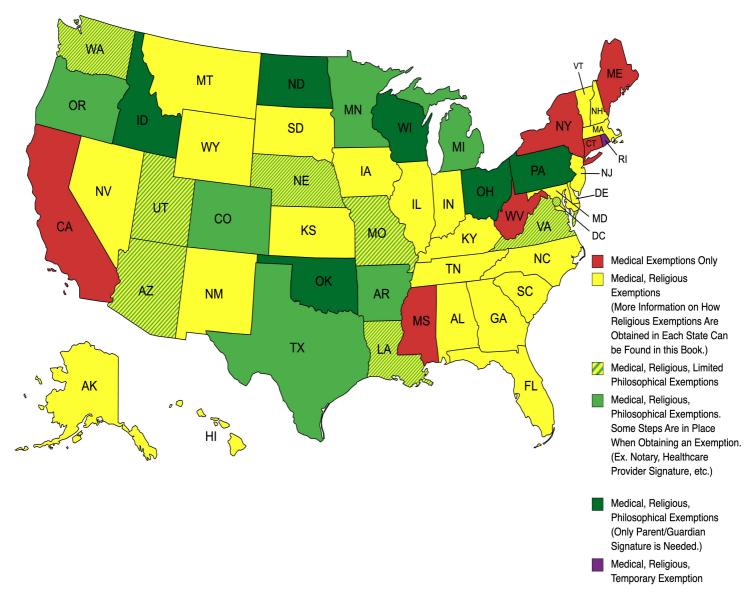


This map shows vaccine laws for school attendance in each state. This is the main place where vaccine rules apply in the US outside of covid restrictions, such as mask mandates and covid requirements for some jobs, which are constantly changing.

Vaccine exemption laws are much more consistent.

#### Additional Information:

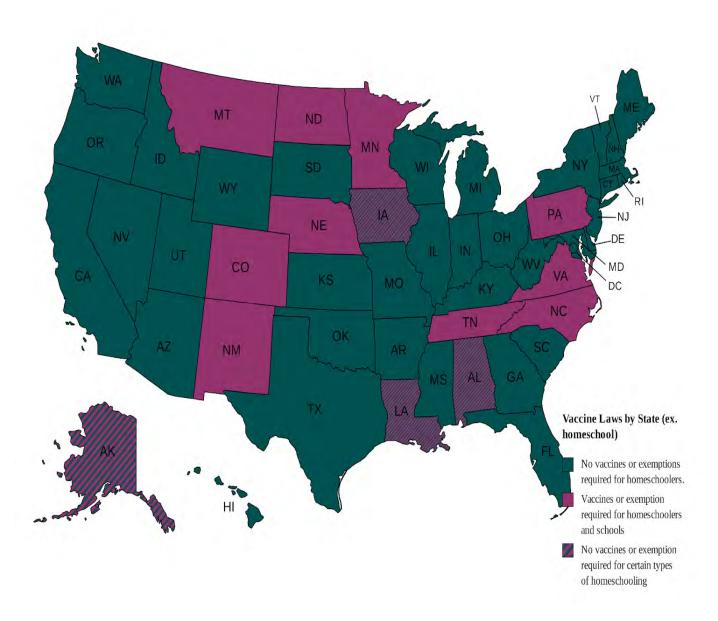
Many states apply the same rules for colleges, while other states do not have the same rules regarding colleges. Check with the college you are interested in attending. National Vaccine Information Center also has useful information.



Created with mapchart.net

Created with mapchart.net

This map shows vaccine rules for homeschoolers and whether the state requires vaccines or exemptions for homeschoolers, if the state partially requires vaccines or exemptions for homeschoolers, or if the state does not require vaccines at all for homeschoolers. If you choose to homeschool, it gives you many more states to choose from, since most states do not require vaccines or exemptions for homeschoolers. Only ten states do for all homeschoolers, and of those states, four of them allow philosophical exemptions for homeschoolers and school students.



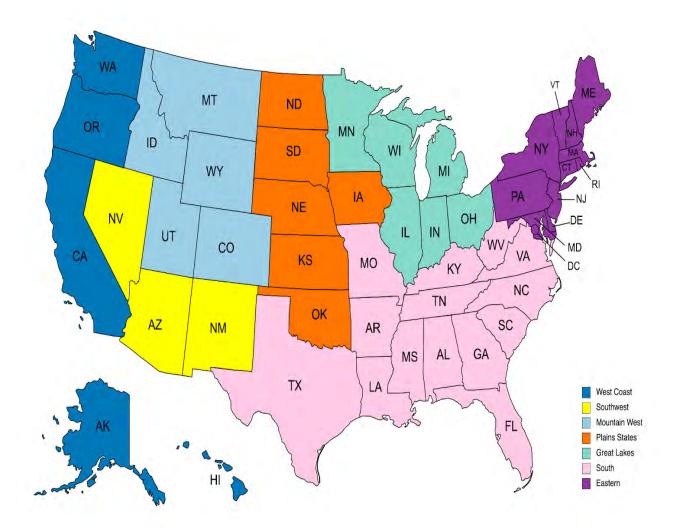
Created with mapchart.net

#### What About Nonmedical Vaccine Exemptions?

Nonmedical vaccine exemptions are usually one exemption that allows you to opt-out of vaccinations for religious or philosophical reasons instead of having two separate exemptions. There are good things about nonmedical exemptions and bad things about nonmedical exemptions. A good thing about them is that it is much harder to restrict specific vaccines to just religious exemptions. This means that if the covid vaccine is added to the same vaccine schedule and is subject to the same rules as other vaccines, it will most likely be part of the nonmedical exemption and not be restricted to just religious beliefs, since religion is not separated from philosophical beliefs and personal convictions with a nonmedical exemption. A good example of this is the difference between Oregon and Washington State. Universities in Oregon that have had covid vaccine requirements for students allow a nonmedical exemption since Oregon law already has this exemption for other vaccines. Washington on the other hand limited the exemption options for the MMR vaccine to just medical and religious exemptions, and many universities in the state are doing the same thing for the covid vaccine. One of the reasons why I think they were able to do this more easily is because religious and philosophical exemptions are separated. However, this is not always the case with states that separate religious and philosophical exemptions. One of the bad things about nonmedical exemptions is that in some states where they are implemented they are used to try to make obtaining an exemption more complicated. This is what happened in Colorado.

## States by Region

This map shows the regions of the United States and the states that make up those regions. Even though vaccine laws vary from state to state, certain regions are better than others as a whole. Most regions of the United States have at least one state that offers a philosophical vaccine exemption. The notable exceptions are the states on the eastern seaboard that border the Atlantic Ocean, where no philosophical exemptions are allowed. However, there are states in this area that do not ask you about your religious beliefs when obtaining a religious exemption.



Created with mapchart.net

# West Coast



The West Coast is a beautiful place with dramatic coastlines, and many different types of regions in itself. Exemption wise, the west coast has fewer states, but some states have better exemption laws than the entire east coast. Palm trees and warmer weather can be found in Southern California and Hawaii, while dense forests can be found on the coasts of the pacific northwest states. There are homeschool options without any vaccine requirements or exemptions in every west coast state.

## California

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical Only

How to Obtain an Exemption

Register in the California Immunization Registry, Doctor Approval. Very Hard to Get

Religious Information Asked?

No Religious Exemptions in California

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?

No



Nicknamed The Golden State, California has varying landscapes from mountains, valleys, and palm trees by the southern california coast. Unless you can get a medical exemption that is extremely hard to get, Homeschooling is the only option for medical freedom living.

#### Useful Information:

Homeschooling in California:





## Oregon

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Nonmedical (Religious, Philosophical)

How to Obtain Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, Healthcare Practitioner or Vaccine Education Module for Nonmedical Exemption

Religious Questions Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

No



Oregon is a state in the pacific northwest region of the United States, having coastal forests and beaches, mountains, valleys, and dry deserts to the east. Overcast weather is also common, especially in the western part of the state. Since Oregon allows philosophical vaccine exemptions for school students and has no requirements for homeschoolers, this is probably the best state on the west coast to go to.

#### **Useful Information:**

Oregonians for Medical Freedom Additional Exemption Info:







Mt. Hood



Multnomah Falls



Cannon Beach



Eastern Oregon

## Washington State

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical (Not for MMR Vaccine)

How to Obtain an Exemption

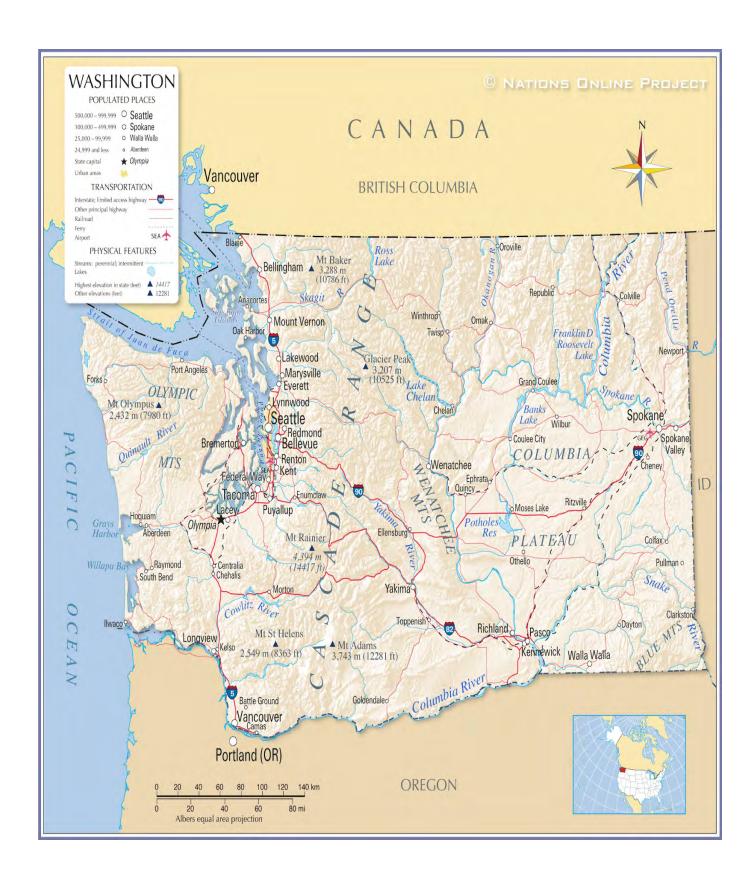
Healthcare Provider for Medical Exemption, Religious Exemption, and Philosophical Exemption.

Religious Questions Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

No



Washington is a state in the pacific northwest region of the United States, having coastal forests and beaches, rainforests, islands, mountains, and valleys. Overcast weather is also common, especially in the western part of the state. Since Washington allows philosophical vaccine exemptions for most vaccines and does not usually ask you about your religious beliefs when obtaining a religious exemption and no vaccines or exemptions are required for homeschoolers, this is a pretty good option on the west coast.

Additional Exemption Information:





The Seattle and Puget Sound region is a beautiful area in the state, with islands and greenery.



The Washington Coast is home to dense forests and is sparsely populated.



Mt. Rainer



Eastern Washington is home to cities like Spokane.

#### Alaska

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain Exemption

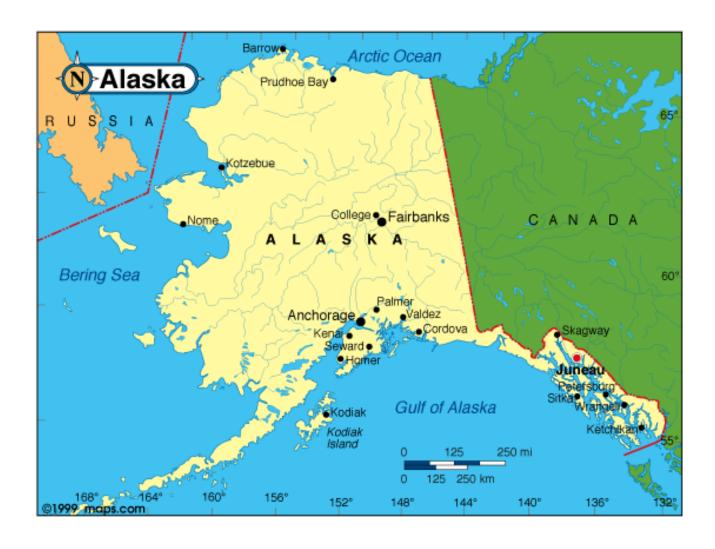
Licensed MD, DO, ANP, PA for Medical Exemption, Notary for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No, but the form explicitly states that philosophical exemptions aren't allowed. Evidence of using the form as a philosophical exemption may make religious exemption invalid.

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?

No, unless homeschooling as a religious private school



America's biggest state has a lot to offer. From mountains and glaciers to rainforests in the southeastern part of the state, Alaska is one of a kind. Because only medical and religious vaccine exemptions are allowed and there are limited homeschool options where vaccines or exemptions are not required, (vaccines or exemptions are required if you are homeschooling with a religious private school), Alaska is more limited when it comes to medical freedom.



Anchorage



Homer



Ketchikan

## Hawaii

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain an Exemption:

Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian and Notary Signature for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

The Religious Exemption Form does not require a summary of objections, but states that Philosophical Exemptions are not allowed and that objections to specific vaccines will not be granted.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

No











Hawaii is a tropical state composed of islands and has warm weather, beautiful tropical beaches, and mountains. With only medical and religious vaccine exemptions but also not requiring vaccines or exemptions for homeschoolers, it is a better option than Alaska and California.



Lahaina, Maui



Honolulu



Maui

# Mountain West



The Mountain West is a region that comprises the mountainous inland region of the west. Skiing, mountain living, and many other activities are plentiful in these states. Medical freedom living opportunities vary by state. More states in this region apply the same rules for homeschoolers as they do for students attending schools than west coast states. However, there are more states with philosophical exemptions in this region than on the west coast.

## Colorado

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Nonmedical (Religious, Philosophical)

How to Obtain an Exemption

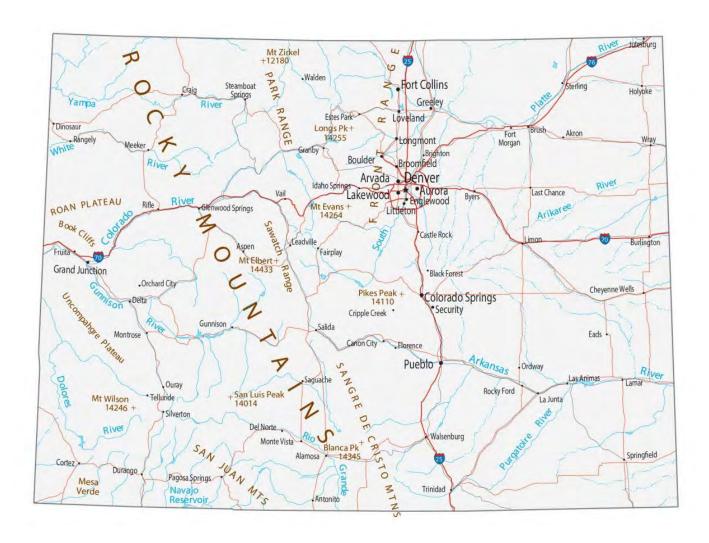
MD, DO, APN, or Physician's Assistant for Medical Exemption, MD, DO, APN, RN, or Pharmacist for Nonmedical Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

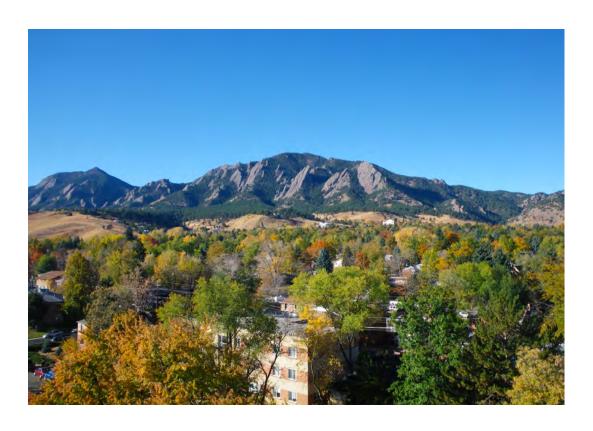
The nonmedical exemption form does not ask about religious beliefs.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

Yes



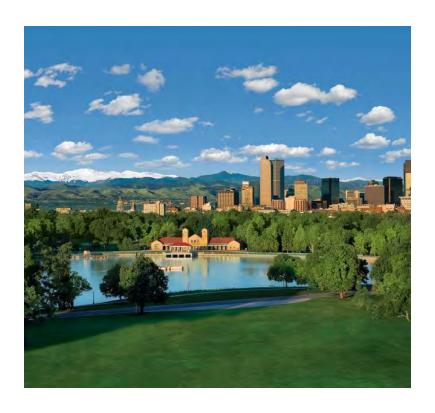
Colorado is a state where there are mountains and plains. There are more people that live in Colorado than any other mountain west state. Most people live on what's called the front range, where the mountains meet the plains. Skiing and mountain biking are popular activities. Since Colorado allows Medical and Nonmedical exemptions (Religious, Philosophical) but requires a healthcare provider's signature and the rules according to HSLDA apply for homeschoolers, Colorado is good for medical freedom but it is not the best state in the region.



My home in Louisville



Vail



# Denver



Eastern Colorado

# Wyoming

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

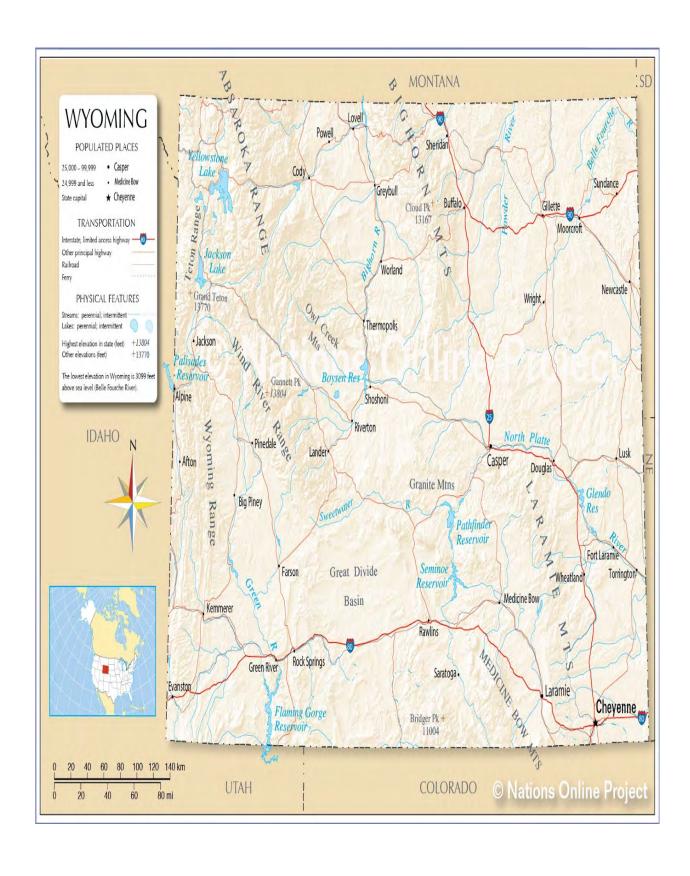
How to Obtain an Exemption

Parent/Guardian Signature, County or State Health Officer for Medical Exemption, Religious Exemption

Religious Questions Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



### **About This State**

Wyoming is a sparsely populated mountain west state. It has the least amount of people in the whole United States. It is home to Yellowstone Natl. Park and Grand Teton Natl. Park. Since Wyoming has only Medical and Religious Exemptions but does not require vaccines or an exemption for homeschoolers, it is better than states like Montana but worse than Colorado.



Jackson Hole, Wyoming



Cheyenne



Eastern Wyoming

# Idaho

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical

How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious, Philosophical Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No. Some exemption forms may require a summary of objections for a philosophical exemption, but the form found on Idaho's official website does not.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



# **About This State**

Idaho is a mountainous state that borders Canada. It is home to lakes, skiing, and the capital of Boise. Since Idaho has philosophical exemptions and no vaccines or exemptions are required for homeschoolers, this could very well be the best mountain west state to go to.



Boise



Coeur d'alene



Sun Valley



Mccall



Southern Idaho

# Montana

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain an Exemption

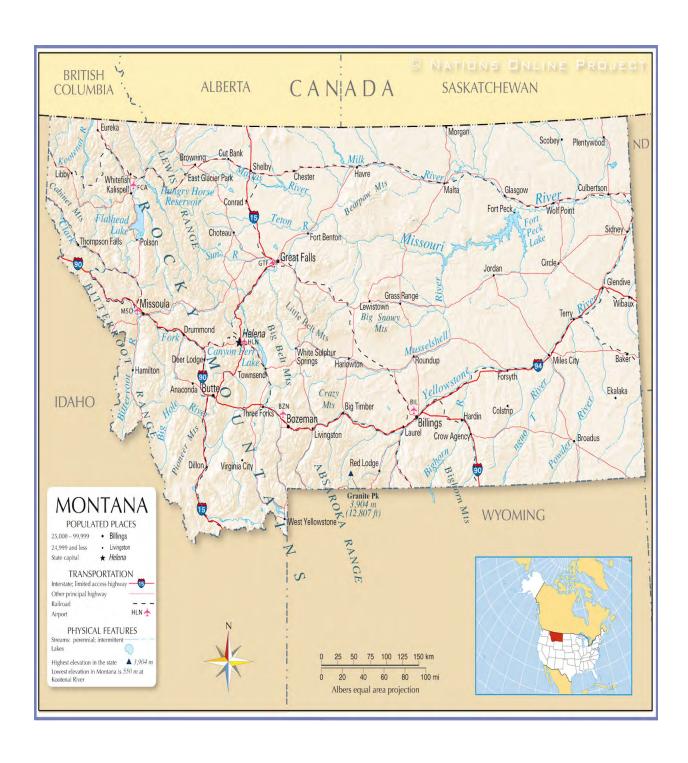
Healthcare Provider for Medical Provider, Notary for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No, but claiming one based on a nonreligious reason is crime and you could be subject to jail time.

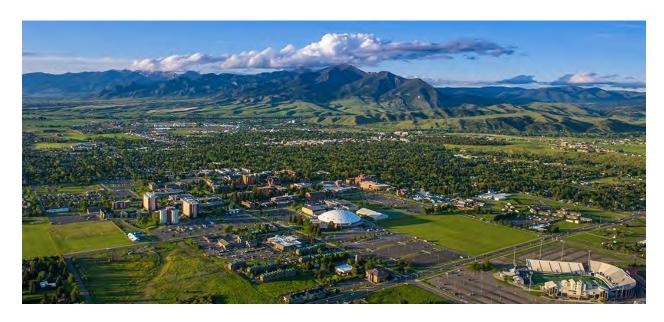
Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?

Yes

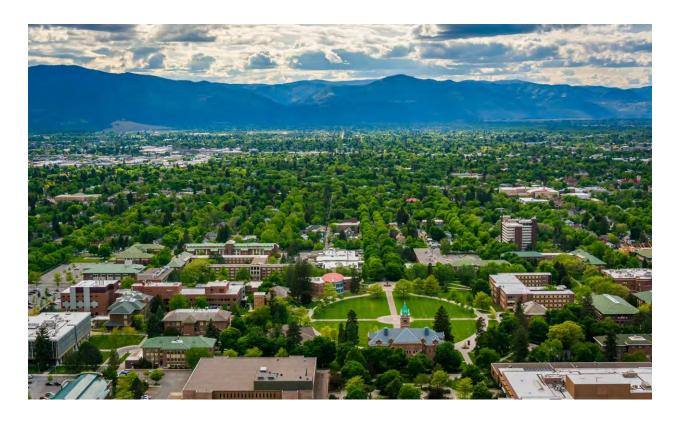


### **About This State**

Montana is a state with mountains and plains. Skiing, mountain biking and farming are part of the state's culture. However, Montana may be the worst state to go to for medical freedom in the mountain west since they only allow Medical and Religious Exemptions with perjury and jail time being possible if you use the exemption form for nonreligious belief, and the same rules also apply for homeschoolers.



Bozeman



Missoula



Billings

# Utah

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical (Not for MMR Vaccine)

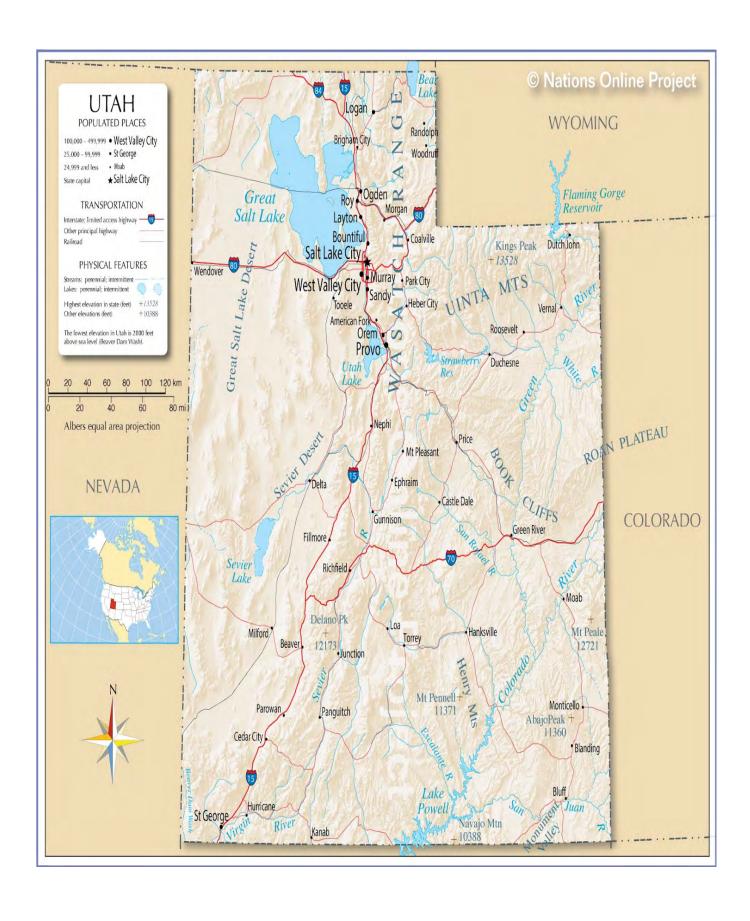
How to Obtain an Exemption

Healthcare Provider for Medical Exemption, Religious Exemption, and Philosophical Exemption.

Religious Questions Asked?

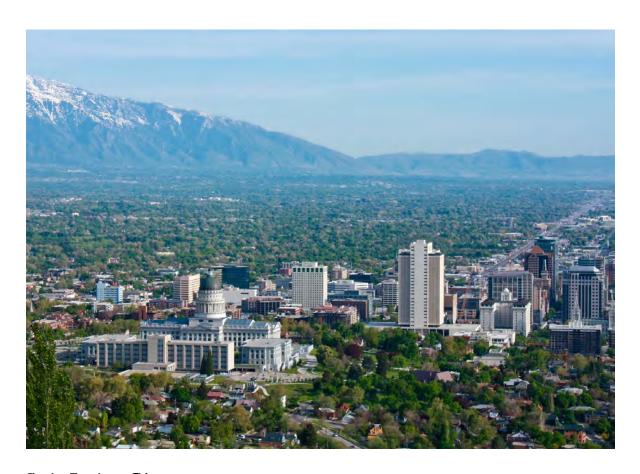
No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



# **About This State**

Utah is a state with rock formations, mountains, and the Great Salt Lake. Since Utah allows philosophical exemptions for most vaccines and vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers, Utah is a pretty good option in the mountain west.



Salt Lake City



Zion Natl. Park



Park City

# The Southwest



The southwest region of the United States is home to deserts, mountains, and warmer weather and Mexican culture in the border states. Exemption wise, the southwest is more limited for medical freedom living than other regions in the west since only one state in this region has a philosophical exemption (if you are not counting the western desert region of Texas in the southern region), and the exemption in the state is not allowed for preschoolers. Most states in the southwestern region do not require vaccines or exemptions for homeschoolers.

# Arizona

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical for K-12 Schooling, Not Available for Preschool

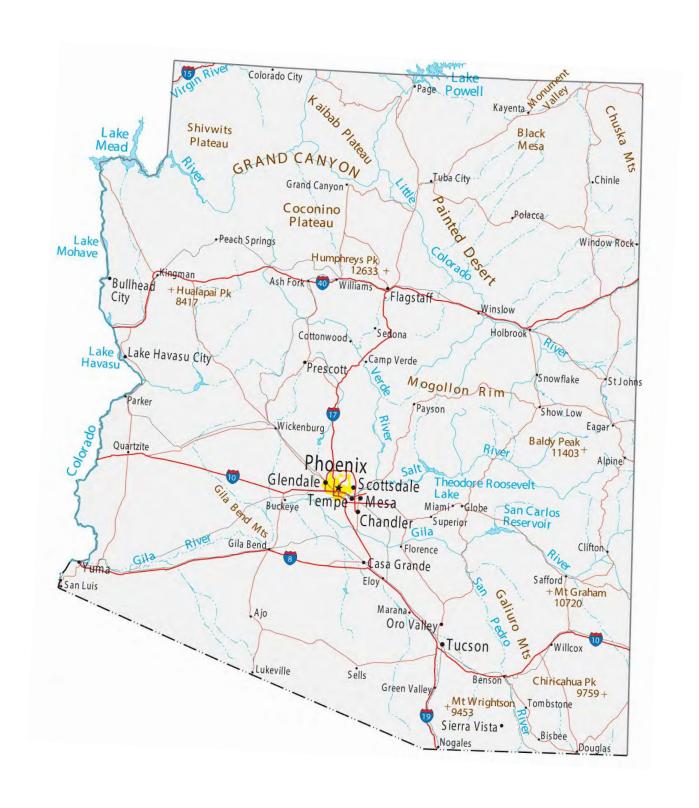
How to Obtain Exemption

Physician or Nurse Practitioner for Medical Exemption, Parent or Guardian for Religious Exemption, Philosophical Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No summary of religious objections is asked on the Religious Exemption Form

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



Arizona is a border state in the southwestern region of the United States. It is home to deserts, mountains, and it gets pretty hot in a lot of the state. The state allows philosophical vaccine exemptions for students with the notable exception for preschoolers, where only medical and religious exemptions are allowed. Vaccines or an exemption are not required for homeschoolers.



Phoenix



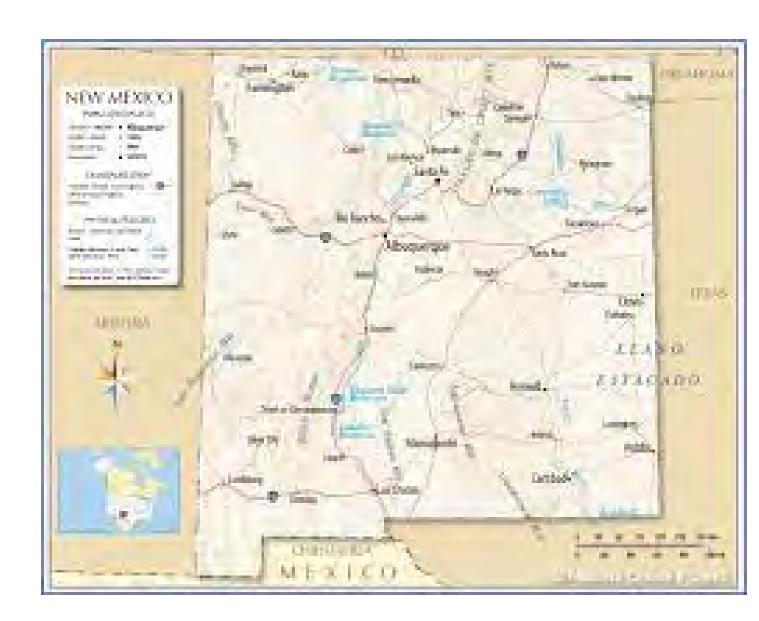
Tucson



Grand Canyon Natl. Park

# New Mexico

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious How to Obtain an Exemption MD, DO for Medical Exemption, Notary for Religious Exemption Religious Information Asked? Yes Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool? Yes



New Mexico is a southwestern state that is home to deserts and the southern portion of the rocky mountains. With only Medical and Religious Exemptions and the fact that vaccines or exemptions are also required for homeschoolers make New Mexico the least friendly state for medical freedom in this region.



Albuquerque



Taos

# Nevada

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

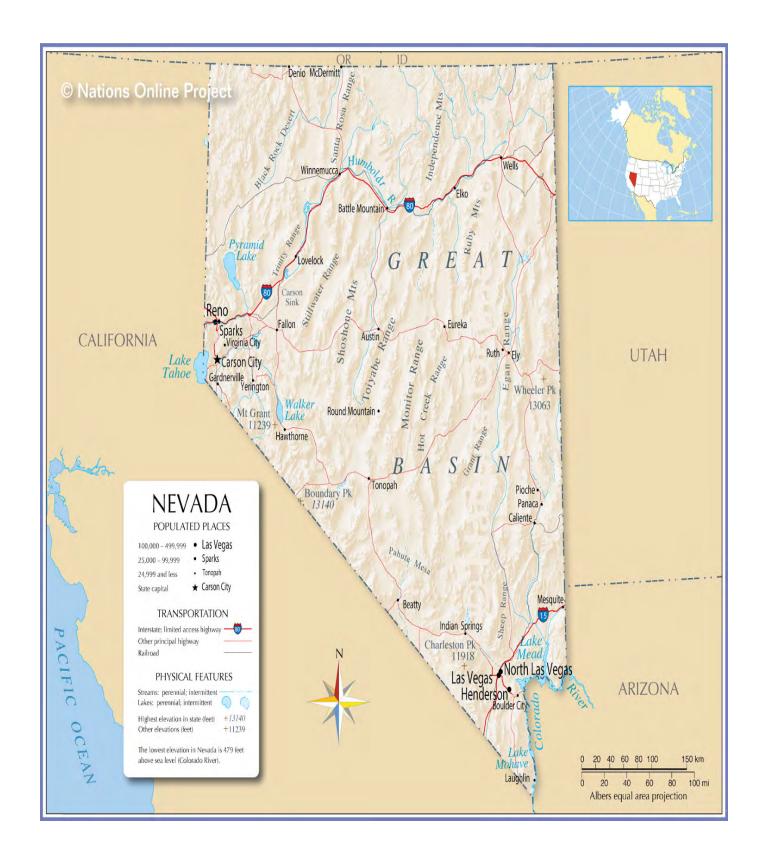
How to Obtain an Exemption

MD, DO, or APRN for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian
Signature and School Nurse or Designee Signature for Religious
Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



Nevada is a state that is home to deserts, big cities like Las Vegas, and skiing near the California border. With only Medical and Religious Exemptions and the fact that the state does not require vaccines or exemptions for homeschoolers makes Nevada better than states like New Mexico but worse than states like Arizona. A great thing about Nevada is that you could live in towns like Reno and only be around three hours away from cities like San Francisco in California.



Las Vegas



The Desert



Reno

# Great Plains



The great plains states are states around the center of the country and mostly far away from the coasts. Farming, ranching, and quaint towns and cities can be found in this region. Medical freedom wise, A lot of the great plains states are more strict with vaccine exemptions, with only two states having a philosophical exemption out of the five states in the region. However, a lot of the great plains states do not ask you about your religious beliefs, and there are more states that do not require vaccines or exemptions for homeschoolers than states that do.

# North Dakota

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical

How to Obtain Exemption

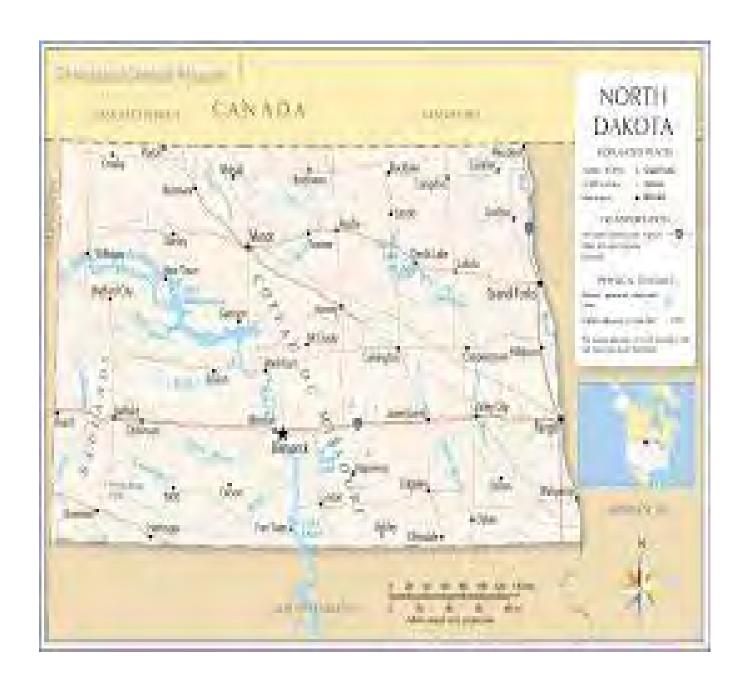
Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious, Philosophical Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?

Yes



North Dakota is a state in the great plains region of the United States. It is home to badlands and rock formations to the west, lakes and rivers across the state, and the cities of Fargo and Bismarck. Having vaccines or exemptions required for homeschoolers but also having philosophical vaccine exemptions available makes North Dakota a pretty good state to live in the great plains region for medical freedom living.



Fargo



Bismarck



Medora



Devil's Lake



Scenic Byway

# South Dakota

No

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

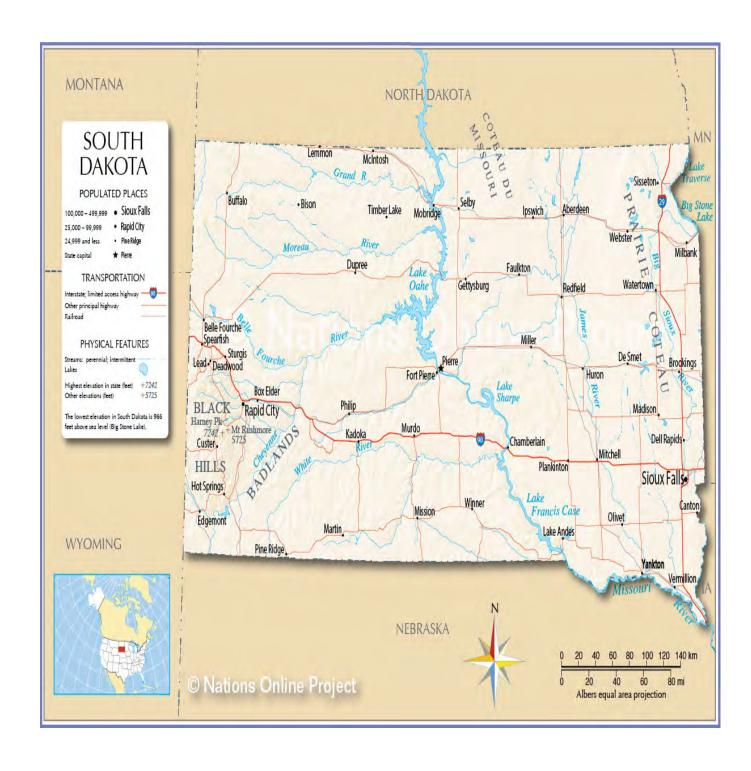
How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious Exemption

Religious Questions Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



South Dakota is a state in the great plains region of the United States that is home to the black hills and part of the Missouri River. Medical and Religious Exemptions are available and no vaccines or exemptions are required for homeschoolers.



Rapid City



Farm in the great plains



Sioux Falls

#### Nebraska

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Parental Refusal Only for Childcare

How to Obtain Exemption

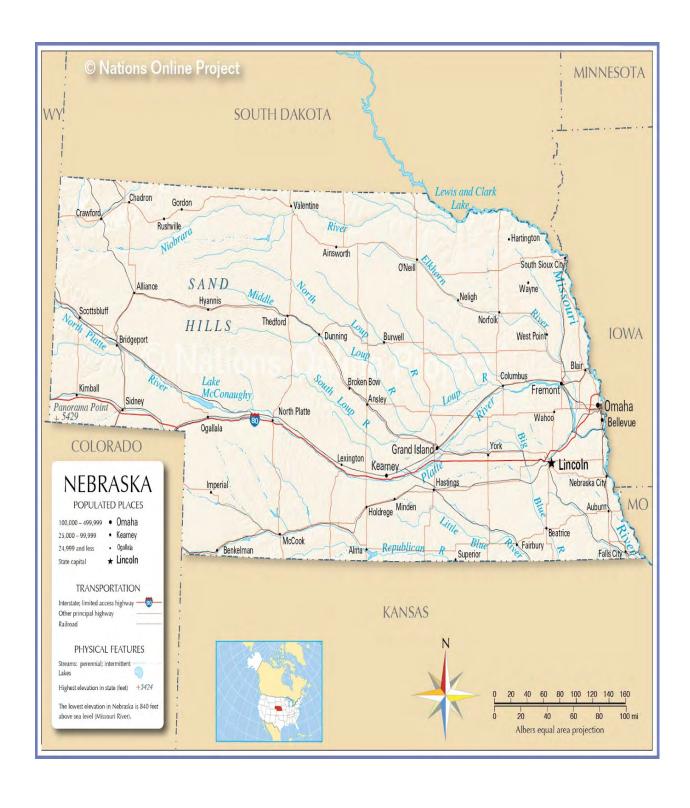
Physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse for Medical Exemption, Notary for Religious Exemption, Written Statement for Parental Refusal

Religious Information Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

Yes



Nebraska is a state in the great plains region of the United States that is home to cities like Omaha and Lincoln, and lakes and farms. Since Nebraska only has Medical and Religious Exemptions that affect school students and homeschoolers, Nebraska is the least friendly state in the great plains region for medical freedom living.



#### Omaha



Kearney



Lincoln

#### Kansas

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain a Exemption

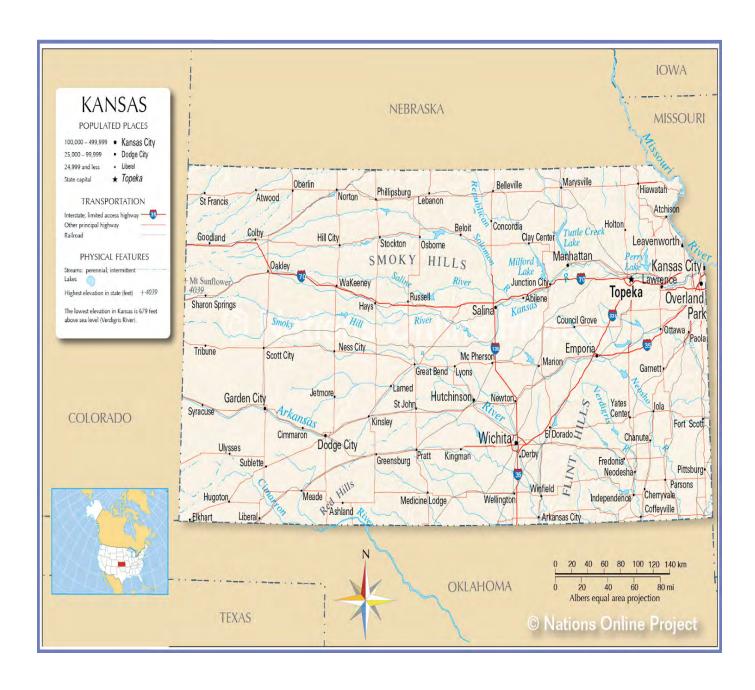
Healthcare Provider for Medical Exemption, Unclear how to file a Religious Exemption. I could not find the form online.

Religious Information Asked?

Unclear. A new bill has been introduced that would not ask you about your religious beliefs.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

No



The sunflower state is home to a lot of farmland and agriculture. Medical and Religious Exemptions are allowed and vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers.



Wichita



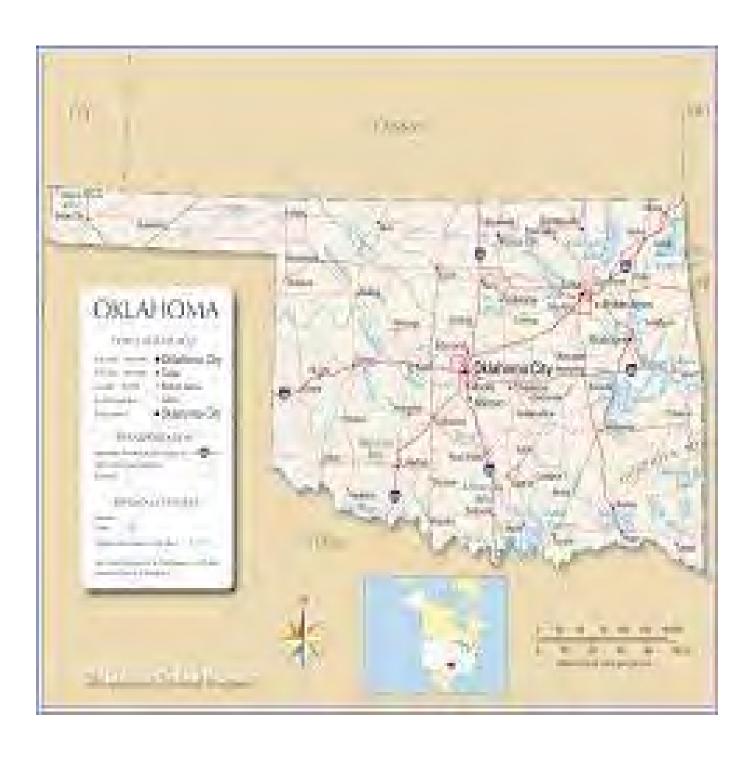
Hays



Overland Park

# Oklahoma

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical How to Obtain Exemption Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious, Philosophical Religious Questions Asked? No Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool? No



Oklahoma is a state in the great plains region of the United States. It is home to mountains (forested large hills), lakes, plains, and Native American culture. Medical, religious and philosophical exemptions are allowed and vaccines or an exemption are not required for homeschoolers. This is probably the best option in the great plains region for medical freedom living.



Oklahoma City



Mountains



The Panhandle



Tulsa



Farm on the Great Plains

#### Iowa

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain a Exemption

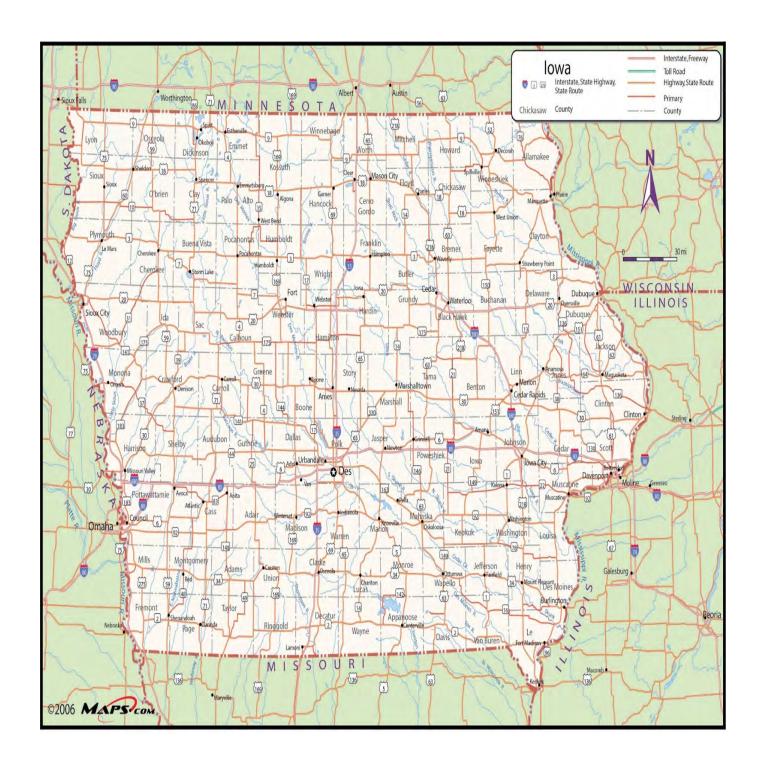
Physician, Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant for Medical Exemption, Notary for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No, but states that it can not be used based on a philosophical reason, scientific reason, or medical opposition. Sorry scientists, doctors, and researchers.

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?

Yes, Unless You Homeschool by Independent Private Instruction or Homeschool by Opt-Out.



Iowa is a state in the great plains region of the United States. It is home to towns like Iowa City and Des Moines. Exemption wise, Iowa allows only Medical and Religious Exemptions and vaccines or exemptions are required unless you homeschool by independent private instruction or homeschool by opt-out.



**Iowa City** 



Des Moines



Farm on the great plains

# Great Lakes



The Great Lakes Region is a region that is home to forests, lakes, great lakes, and very distinct seasons. Medical freedom wise, this is probably the best region as a whole for medical freedom in the United States. Four out of six states in this region allow philosophical vaccine exemptions and the one state that does require vaccines for homeschoolers allows philosophical vaccine exemptions.

Minnesota
Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Nonmedical (Religious, Philosophical)
How to Obtain Exemption
Health Care Practitioner for Medical Exemption, Notary for Nonmedical Exemption
Religious Information Asked?
No
Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?
Yes



The land of ten thousand lakes is home to forests, lake superior shoreline, and the cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul. Vaccines or exemptions are required for school students and homeschoolers with Medical and Nonmedical vaccine exemptions available (religious, philosophical).



Minneapolis



Split Rock Lighthouse



Sawtooth Mountains



Bemidji



Scenic Drive

### Wisconsin

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical How to Obtain an Exemption Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious, Philosophical Exemption Religious Information Asked? No Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool? No



America's dairyland is an amazing state even if you are lactose intolerant. Wisconsin is home to peninsulas on Lake Michigan that remind people of Cape Cod in Massachusetts, cities like Madison and Green Bay, and tons of lakes.

Offering philosophical vaccine exemptions that are easy to get and the fact that vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers make Wisconsin one of the best states in the great lakes region for medical freedom living.



**Door County** 



Madison



Milwaukee



Farm



Apostle Islands

Michigan

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical

How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, Local Health
Department "Vaccine Education" Administered. Michigan
Dept. of Health has been called out by organizations such as
ICAN.

Religious Information Asked?

No information is solicited that I could find when going to the health dept.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

No



Michigan has more shoreline on the great lakes than any other state. The state is home to college towns, hiking trails, charming towns, and the upper peninsula. Medical, Religious, and Philosophical Exemptions are available and vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers.



Sleeping Bear Dunes Natl. Lakeshore



Lansing



Upper Peninsula



Drummond Island



Lake Huron

#### Ohio

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Reasons of Conscience (Religious, Philosophical)

How to Obtain Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Reasons of Conscience Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

Yes

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



alamy

Ohio is a state in the great lakes region of the United States. It is home to waterfalls, hills, farmland, and borders Lake Erie. Medical and Reasons of Conscience exemptions are available and vaccines or an exemption are not required for homeschoolers.



Waterfall



Lake Erie



Dayton

### Indiana

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

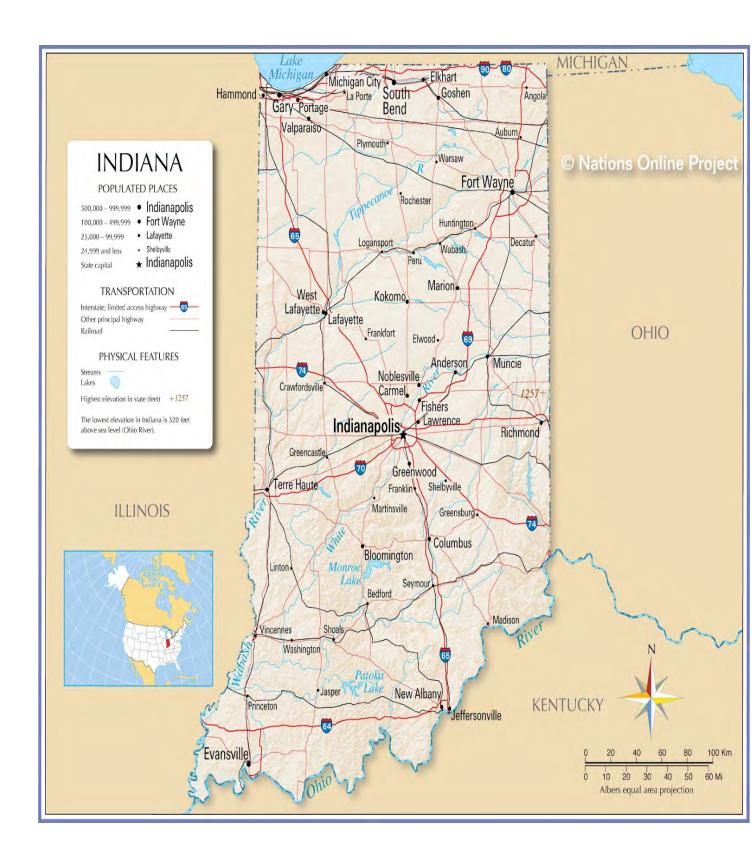
How to Obtain a Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?



Indiana is home to Lake Michigan shoreline, cities like
Indianapolis and Bloomington, and farms. With no vaccines
or exemptions being required for homeschoolers but only
medical and religious exemptions being available for school
students makes Indiana more limited for medical freedom
living.



Bloomington



Farm



Lake Michigan

## Illinois

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

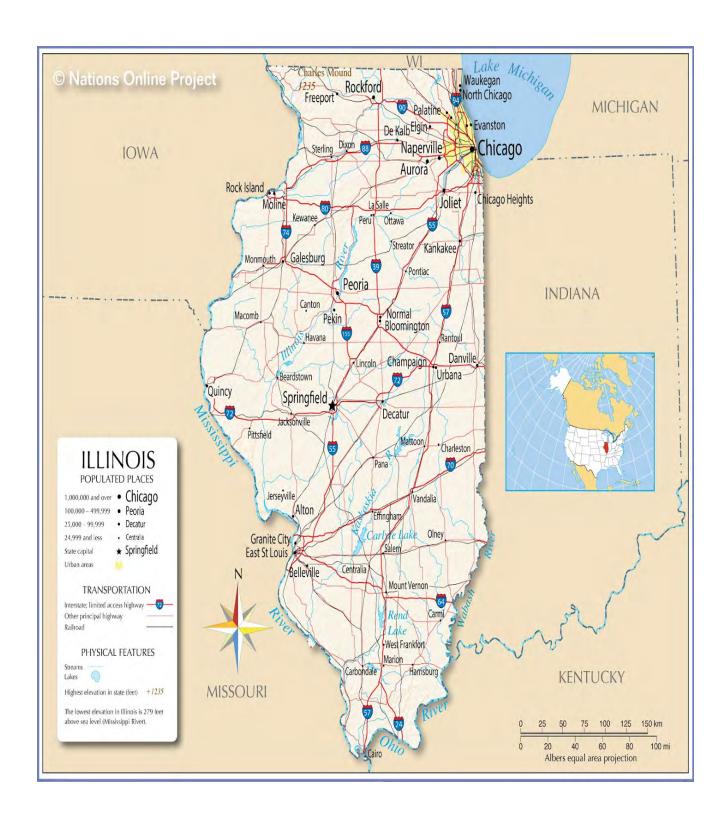
How to Obtain an Exemption:

Healthcare Provider for Medical, Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

Yes.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



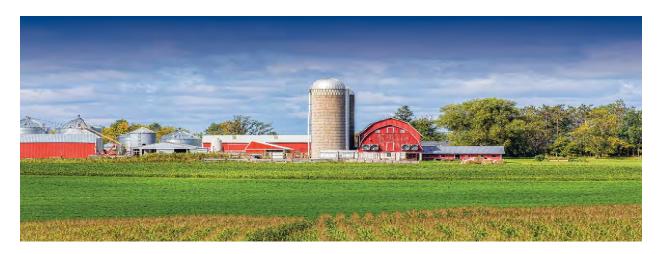
Illinois is home to farms and cities like Chicago. With vaccines or exemptions not being required for homeschoolers but only having medical and religious exemptions that are hard to get make Illinois the worst state for medical freedom living in this region. However, Illinois is next to Wisconsin which is great for medical freedom. Cities like Milwaukee in the state are only an hour and thirty minutes from Chicago.



Chicago



Springfield



Farms

# The South



The south is a region in the United States that spans from Texas to Virginia and compasses everything in between. The population here tends to be more religious, so many states do not ask you about your beliefs at all when obtaining a religious exemption. Three out of thirteen states in this region allow philosophical exemptions with two other states allowing limited philosophical exemptions. There are more states that do not require vaccines or exemptions for homeschoolers than states that do.

#### Texas

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Reasons of Conscience (Religious, Philosophical)

How to Obtain an Exemption

MD, DO for Medical Exemption, Notarized Affidavit for Reasons of Conscience Exemption

Religious Questions Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



Texas is a state in the south central region of the United States. Texas is home to so many different kinds of landscapes and climates, including the hill country, the coast on the Gulf of Mexico, and the Big Bend Region. Since vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers and Medical and Reasons of Conscience exemptions are available (religious, philosophical), Texas is one of the best options in the south for medical freedom living.



Austin



Galveston



East Texas



Big Bend



El Paso

#### Arkansas

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical

How to Obtain an Exemption

Healthcare Worker for Medical Exemption, Notary and Education Module by the Arkansas Dept. of Health for Religious and Philosophical Exemptions

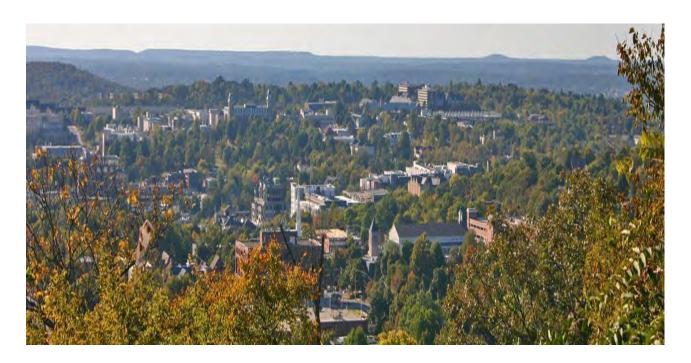
Religious Information Asked?

Unclear

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?



Arkansas is a state in the southeastern United States. It is home to lush greenery, forests, hilly mountains, and hot springs, all with quintessential southern charm. Vaccines or an exemption are not required for homeschoolers and Medical, Religious, and Philosophical exemptions are available.



Fayetteville



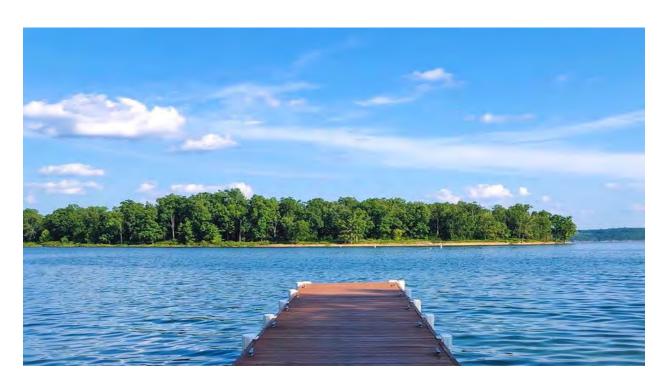
Hot Springs



Ozark Mountains



Lake Ouachita



Norfork Lake

#### Louisiana

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical

How to Obtain an Exemption

Physicians Signature for Medical Exemption,
Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious, Philosophical
Exemption. However, there is a rule that seems to fit the
term of classism that says only Medical and Religious
Exemptions will be allowed for compliance with regulations
concerning public assistance recipients.

Religious Information Asked?

No religious information is asked on the form.

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?

Yes if you are homeschooling as a home study program, not if you are homeschooling as a home based private school



Louisiana is a state in the southern gulf coast
Region of the United States. It is home to marshes, the
woods, beaches, and New Orleans. Medical, Religious, and
Philosophical Exemptions are allowed except if you are a
public assistance recipient, where only Medical and
Religious Exemptions are allowed. Vaccines or exemptions
are not required for homeschoolers unless you are
homeschooling as a home study program.



New Orleans



Grand Isle



Countryside



Mount Driskill



Lake

#### Missouri

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical only for Childcare Facilities

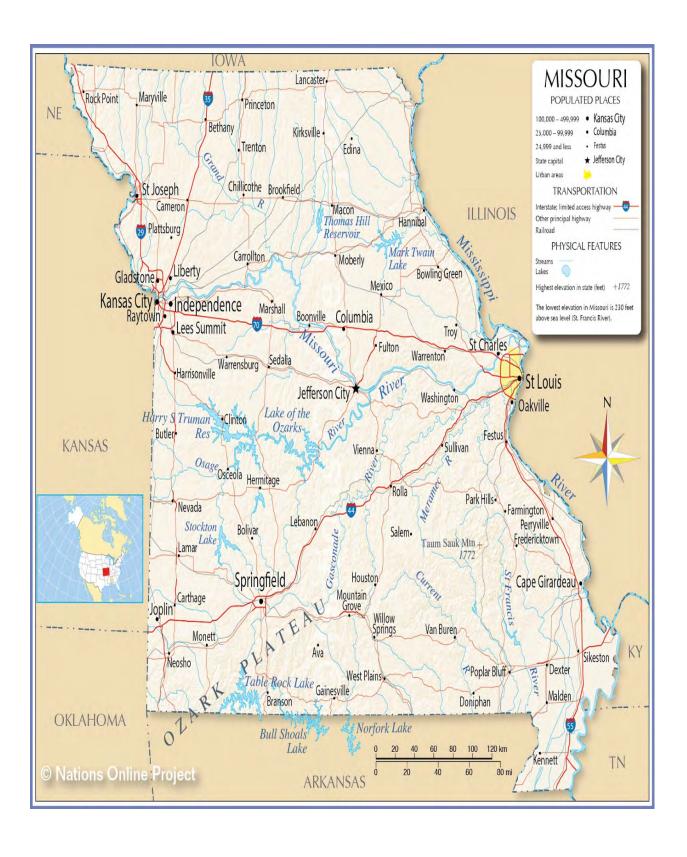
How to Obtain an Exemption

MD, DO for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious Exemption, Written Objection for Philosophical Exemption in Childcare

Religious Information Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?



Missouri is a midwestern state and a southern state. It is home to great barbecue, college towns like Columbia, and The Ozarks. Vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers. Medical and Religious Exemptions are allowed. Philosophical Exemptions are only allowed for daycare.



St. Louis



Columbia



Ozarks

# Mississippi

Vaccine Exemption: Medical Only

How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician and Local Health Officer for Medical Exemption.

Religious Information Asked?

No Religious Exemption

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschoolers?



Mississippi is a state in the southern region of the United States that is home to great agriculture, woods, and coastline on the Gulf of Mexico. Unless you can get a medical exemption, Homeschooling is the only option for medical freedom living.



#### Alabama

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain Exemption

Licensed Physician for Medical Exemption, County Health Department for Religious Exemption

Religion Information Asked?

A written objection is needed.

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?

No, unless student homeschools through private school



Alabama is a state in the southern region of the United States. It is home to great history and culture, mountains, and coastline on the Gulf of Mexico. Vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers unless you homeschool through a private school. Medical and Religious exemptions are available.



Birmingham



Orange Coast



Mountains

# Georgia

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

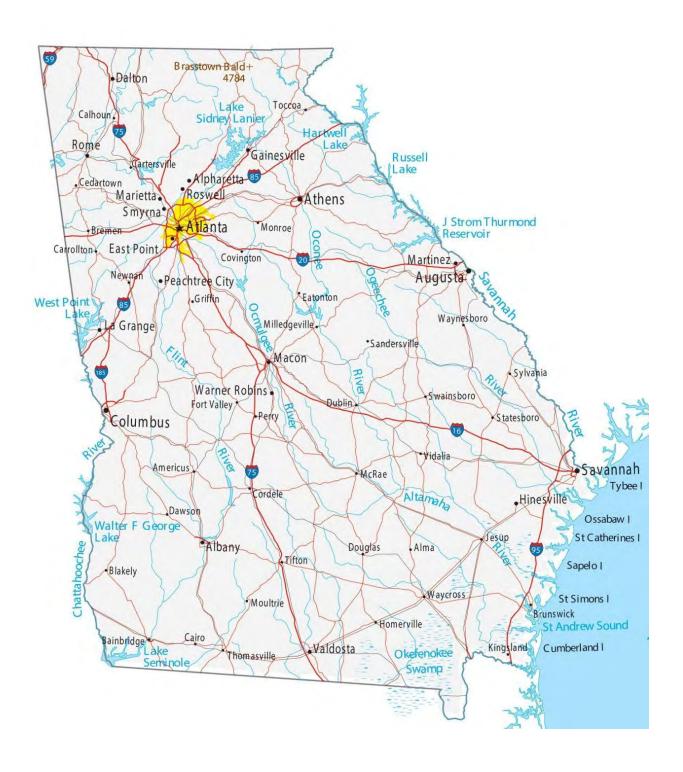
How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician, APRN, PA for Medical Exemption, Notary for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No, but form states that philosophical exemptions are not allowed.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



Georgia is a state in the southeastern region of the United States. It is home to beautiful forests, lakes, atlantic coastline, and cities like Atlanta. Vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers, but only Medical and Religious Exemptions are allowed for school students. However, like much of the south you do not have to explain your beliefs when you are obtaining a Religious Exemption.



Atlanta



Tybee Island



Helena

# Florida

Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, County Clerk for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?



Florida is a state on the southeast coast of the United States. It is home to tropical weather, amazing beaches, and Ron Desantis. Florida is the only state to have coastline on the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. Medical and Religious Exemptions are available for school students. By law, no one can ask you about your beliefs when obtaining a religious exemption. Vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers.



Delray Beach



Siesta Key



Central Florida

South Carolina

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain an Exemption

Licensed Healthcare Provider for Medical Exemption, Notary for

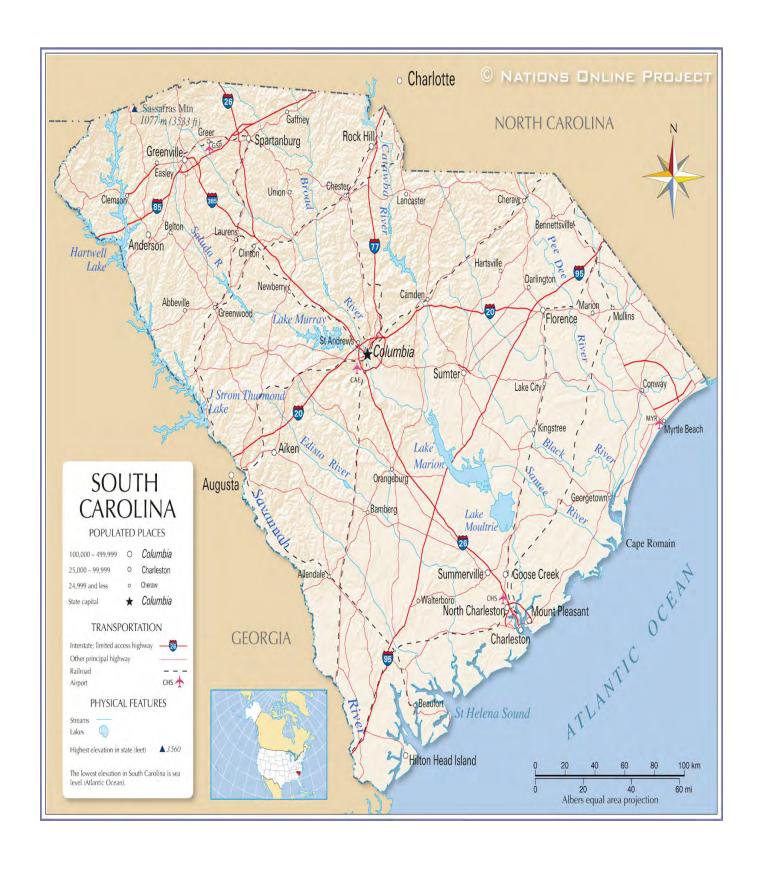
Religious Exemption

Religious Questions Asked?

The parent or guardian's signature and notary signature is required on the exemption form. The religious exemption form says that parents have to state that they are members of a recognized religious denomination in which the tenets and practices of the religious denomination conflict with immunizations. I could not find any evidence that

they ask you about your beliefs on the statement.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



South Carolina is a state in the southeast of the United States. It is home to beautiful islands, mountains, forests, and great southern charm. Only Medical and Religious Exemptions are allowed.

Vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers. Even though South Carolina's official religious exemption form only wants you to use it if you are part of a recognized religious denomination, unofficially many schools do not care about this at all, but this is not a guarantee.



Hilton Head Island



Charleston



Greenville

## Tennessee

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain an Exemption

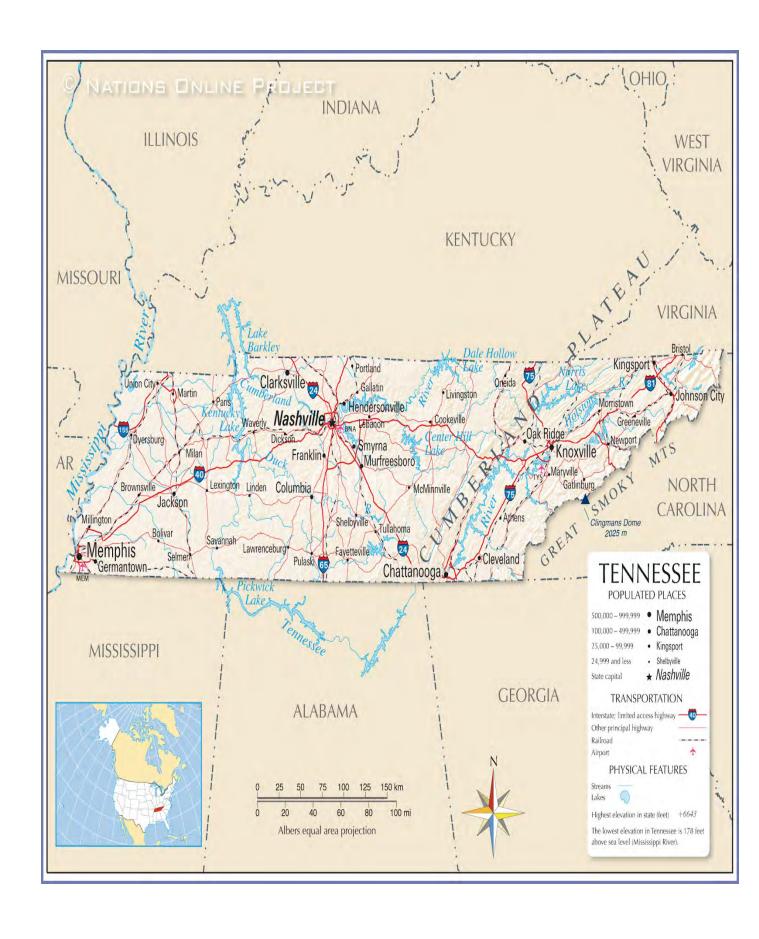
MD, DO for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious Exemption

Religious Questions Asked?

No, but you could get charged with perjury if you use it for a nonreligious reason

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

Yes



Tennessee is home to great country music, mountains, and cities like Nashville and Chattanooga. However, this is probably the worst place in the south for medical freedom living since only medical and stringent religious exemptions are allowed and vaccines or exemptions are required for homeschoolers.



Nashville



Chattanooga



Smoky Mountains

#### North Carolina

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious Exemption

Religious Questions Asked?

A written statement is asked for, but the state won't review it for approval.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

Yes



North Carolina is home to beaches, mountains, and cities like Raleigh. North Carolina only allows medical and religious exemptions for school students and homeschoolers. This is not the best state to go to for medical freedom living.



Emerald Isle



Asheville



Raleigh

# Kentucky

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

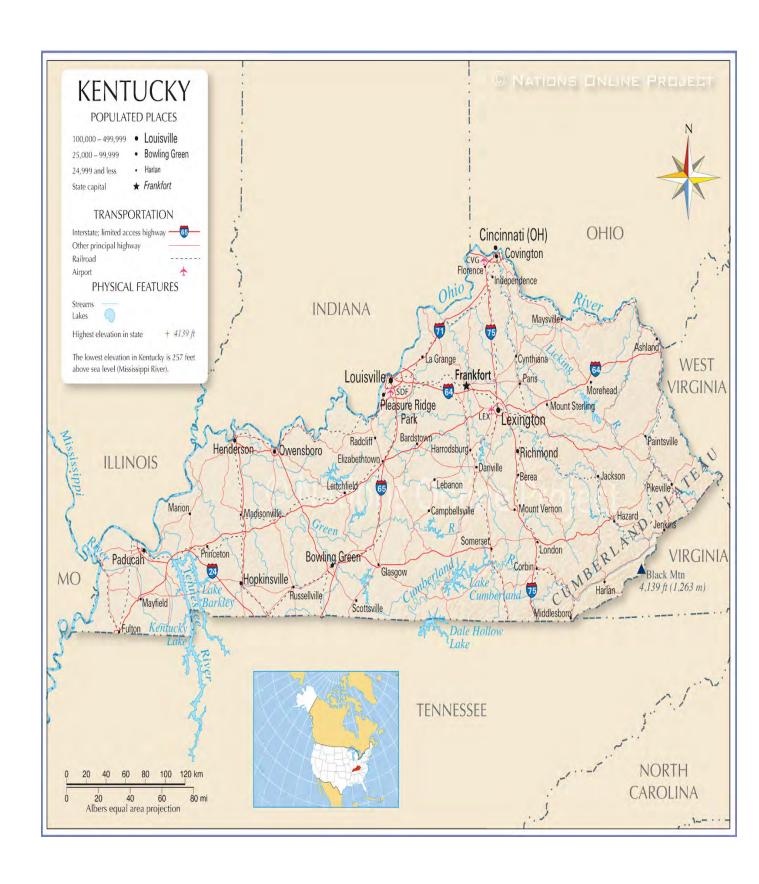
How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, Notary for Religious Exemption

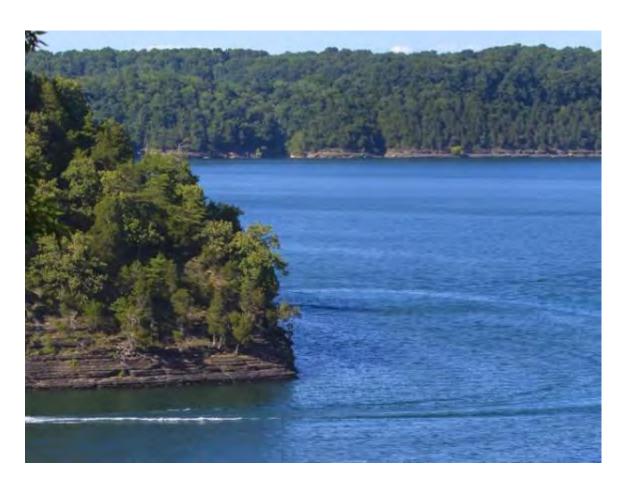
Religious Information Asked?

No, but must have a written sworn statement. I could not find any evidence that they ask you about your beliefs on the statement.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



Kentucky is home to lakes, mountains, and cities like
Louisville. Kentucky allows medical and religious
exemptions and does not require vaccines or exemptions for
homeschooling.



Lake Cumberland



Louisville



Mountains

# Virginia

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical only for HPV Vaccine

How to Obtain an Exemption:

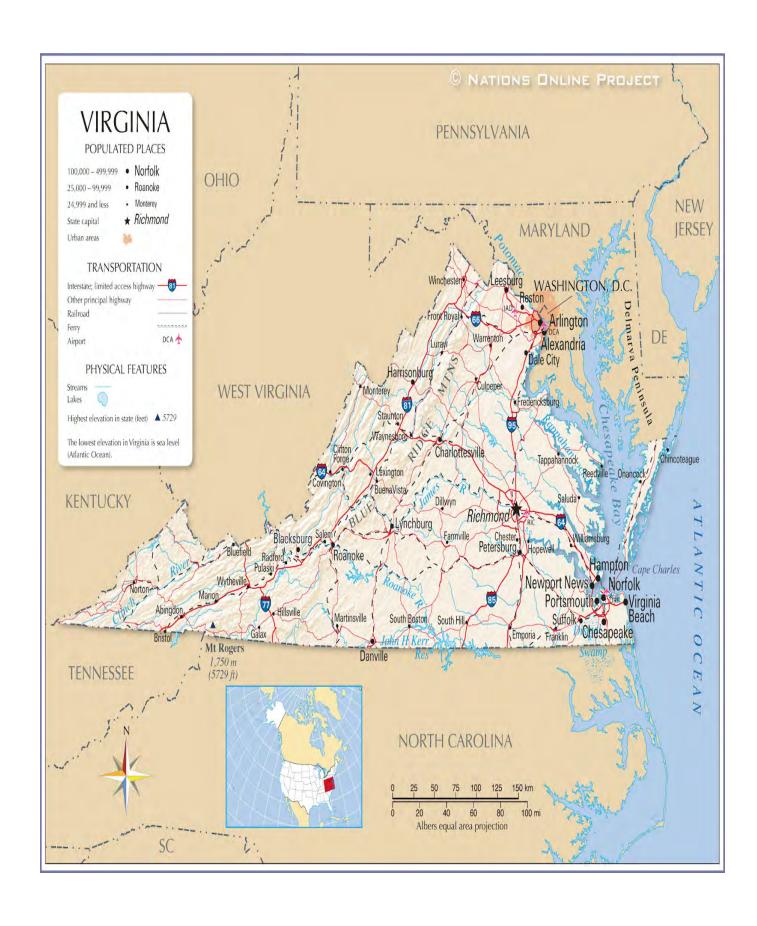
Physician, registered nurse, or a local health department for Medical Exemption, Notary for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

Yes



Virginia is home to beaches, mountains, lakes, and cities like Richmond. Medical and religious exemptions are allowed with a philosophical exemption only for the HPV vaccine. This also applies for homeschoolers according to HSLDA.



Virginia Beach



Richmond



Mountains

# Washington D.C

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical only for HPV Vaccine

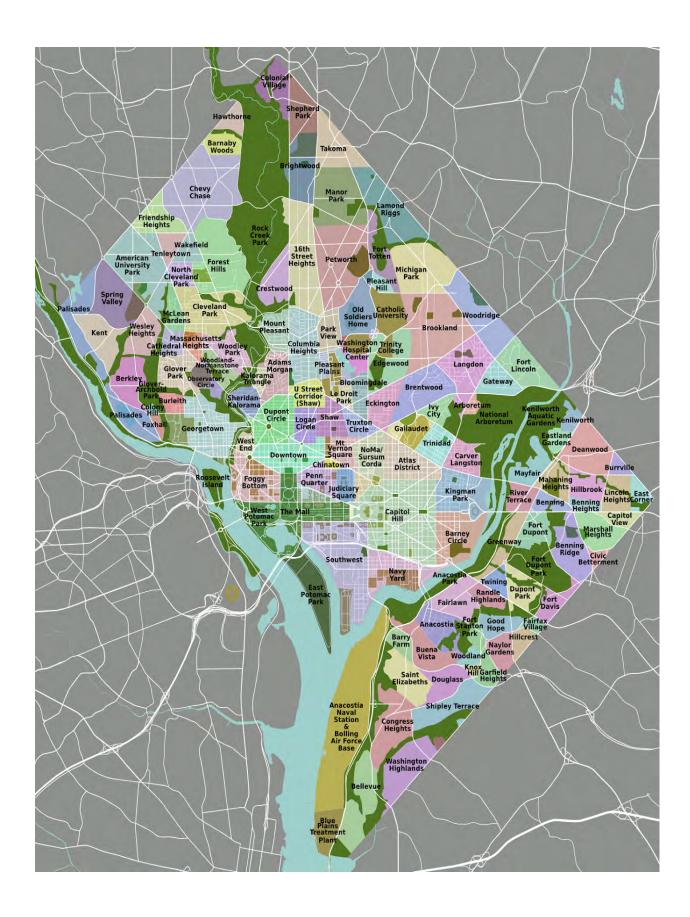
How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

Yes

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



# West Virginia

Vaccine Exemption: Medical Only

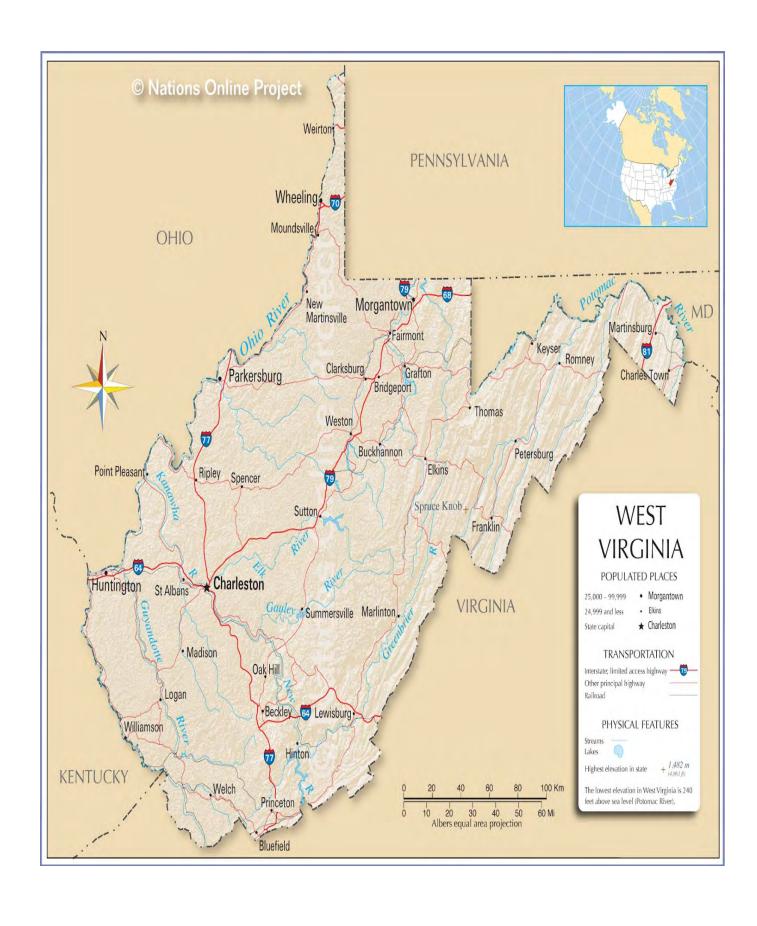
How to Obtain Exemption:

Healthcare Provider for Medical Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No Religious Exemptions Allowed

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?



West Virginia is home to mountains, rivers, and cities like Charleston. Unless you can get a medical exemption, homeschooling is the only option for medical freedom living.



# Eastern Region



The eastern region of the United States encompasses the states in the mid-atlantic and New England. Medical freedom wise, only one state allows philosophical vaccine exemptions, while most other states allow religious exemptions that vary in how hard they are to obtain. There are also states with only medical exemptions.

Maryland

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

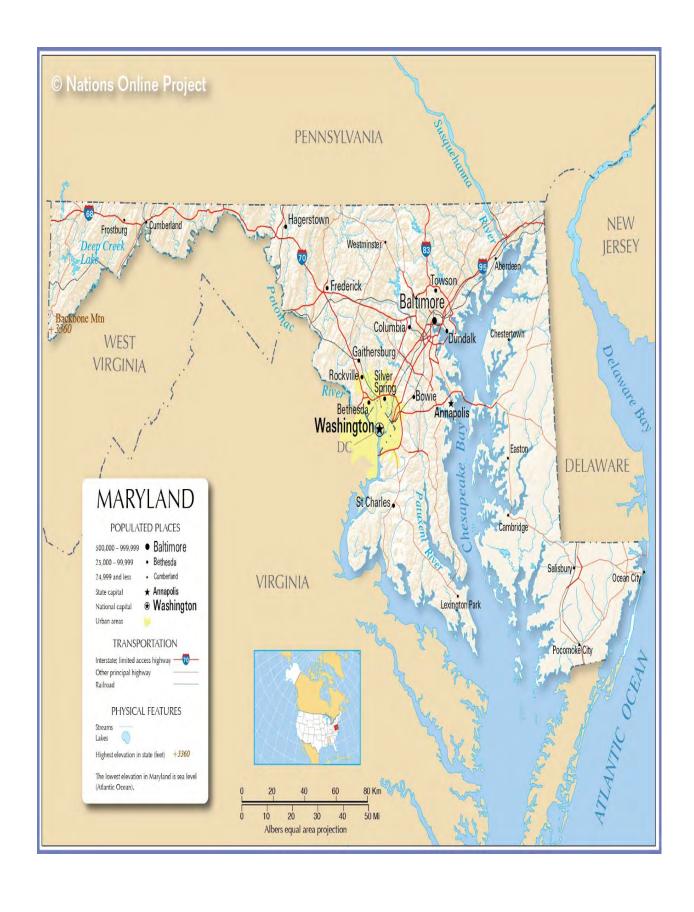
How to Obtain an Exemption

Medical Provider for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious Exemption. Religious Exemption not Valid During "Emergency."

Religious Information Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?



Maryland is a state in the eastern region of the United States. It is home to beaches, mountains, and cities like Baltimore. Only medical and religious exemptions are allowed. Vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers.



Ocean City



Baltimore



Western Maryland

### Delaware

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain Exemption:

Physician for Medical Exemption, Notary for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No Statement of Objection, but Specifies That Philosophical Exemptions Are Not Allowed on Form.

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?



# **About This State**

Delaware is home to beaches, farms, bays, and cities like Wilmington. Medical and religious exemptions are allowed and vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers.



Rehoboth Beach



Delaware Bay



Wilmington

# Pennsylvania

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Philosophical (Some Universities State That Philosophical Exemptions are Limited to Specific Vaccines.)

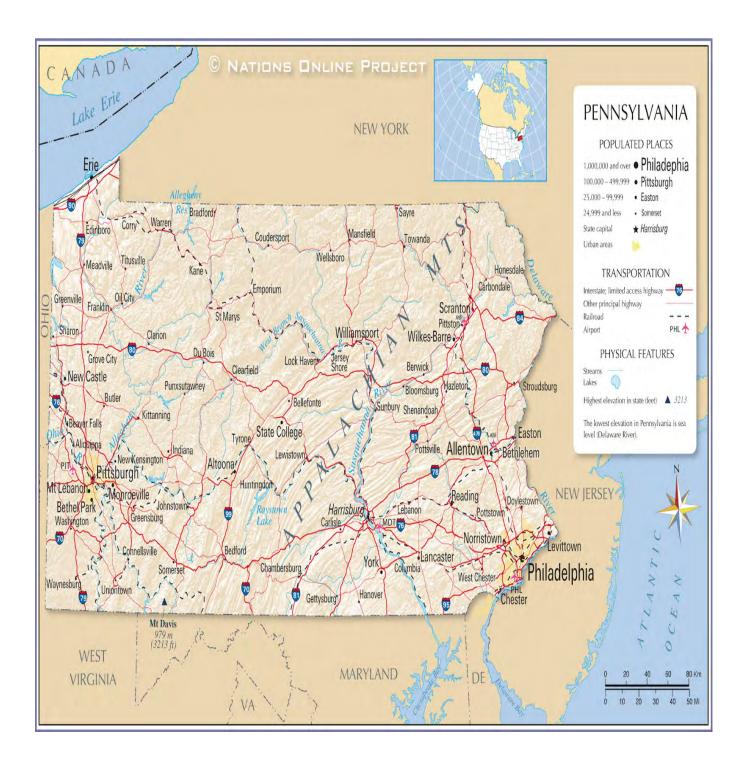
How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian for Religious, Philosophical Exemption.

Religious Questions Asked?

Pennsylvania law states that children need not be immunized if the parent, guardian or emancipated child objects in writing to the immunization on religious grounds or on the basis of a strong moral or ethical conviction. Because of this, religious questions may be asked if your intent is to opt-out of vaccinations based on religious beliefs.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool? Yes



Pennsylvania is home to mountains, lakes, and cities like Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. This is the only state in this region to allow philosophical vaccine exemptions.

Pennsylvania has no coastline, but coastal towns like Cape
May in New Jersey are only a couple hours away from cities
like Philadelphia.



Philadelphia



Pocono Mountains



Bushkill Falls



Pittsburg



Erie

# New Jersey

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy, advanced practice nurse for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious Exemption

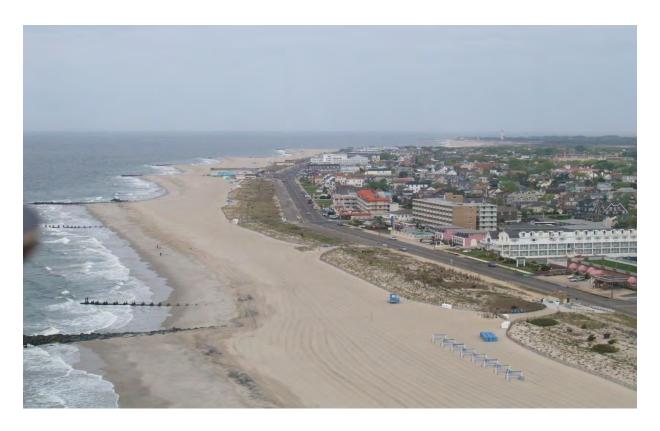
Religious Questions Asked?

No, but New Jersey states that it finds requests for Philosophical Exemptions "unacceptable."

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



New Jersey is home to beaches, some mountains, and cities like Atlantic City and towns like Cape May. Medical and religious exemptions are allowed and vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers.



Cape May



Long Branch



New Jersey Mountains

# New York

Vaccine Exemption: Medical Only

How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No Religious Exemptions

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?



New York is home to mountains, beaches, lakes, and cities like New York and Buffalo. Unless you can get a medical exemption, homeschooling is the only option for medical freedom living.



New York City

### Connecticut

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical Only

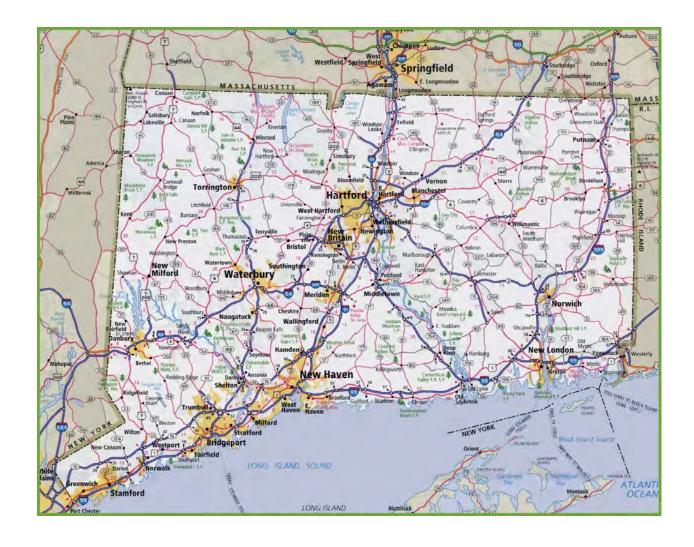
How to Obtain Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No Religious Exemptions in Connecticut K-12. Might be able to get for Universities.

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?



Connecticut is home to rocky coastline, beaches, mountains, and cities like Hartford and New Haven. Unless you can get a medical exemption, homeschooling is the only option for medical freedom living.



Mystic

Rhode Island

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious, Temporary

Exemption

How to Obtain an Exemption

Healthcare Provider, School Nurse, School Administrative Head

Signature for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature and

School Nurse, School Administrative Head Signature for Religious

Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature and School Nurse, School

Administrative Head Signature for Temporary Exemption

Religious Questions Asked?

No.

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?



Rhode Island, the United States smallest state, is home to rocky coastline, beaches, islands, and cities like Providence. Medical, religious, and temporary exemptions are available and vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers.



Newport



Block Island



Providence

Massachusetts

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

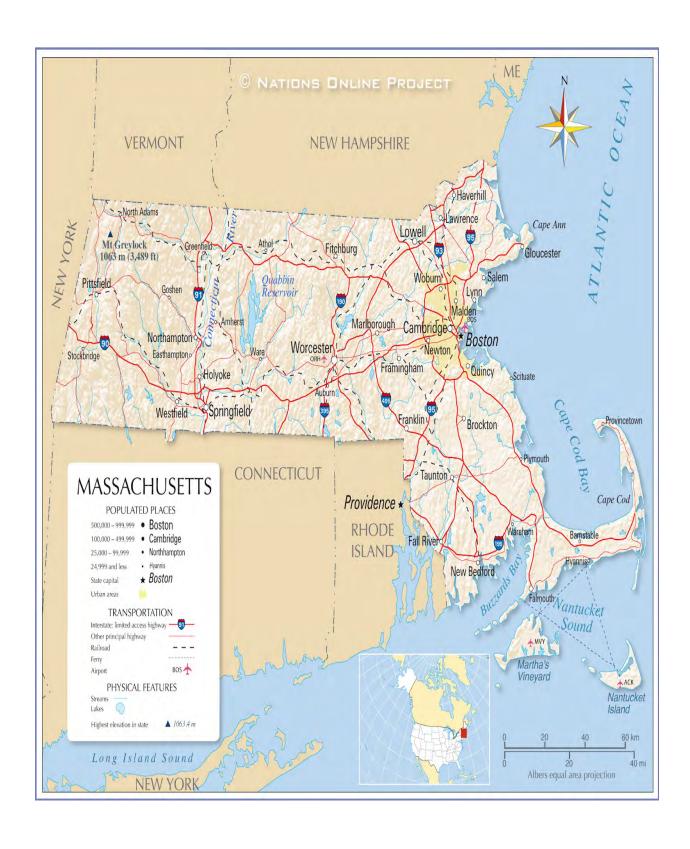
How to Obtain an Exemption

Doctors for Medical Exemptions, Parent/Guardian for Religious Exemptions. There are no official Massachusetts vaccine exemption forms.

Religious Information Asked?

Massachusetts website states that parents should be asked in writing to confirm that vaccination conflicts with religious beliefs.

Vaccines or Exemption Required for Homeschool?



Massachusetts is home to the cape cod peninsula, lakes and mountains, beaches, islands, and cities like Boston. Only medical and religious exemptions are available. Vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers.



Provincetown



Boston



Martha's Vineyard

# Vermont

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical and Religious

How to Obtain Exemption

Health Care Practitioner for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature and "educational material" for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

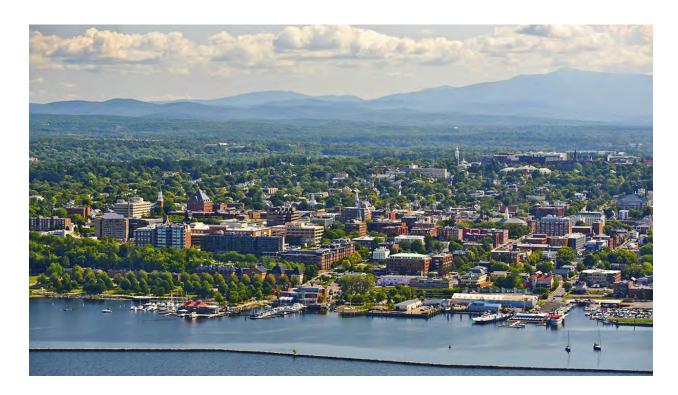
No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

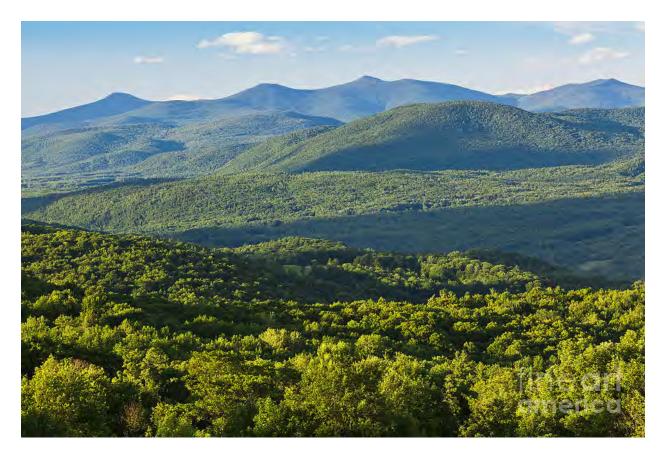


### About the State

Vermont is home to mountains, lakes, and cities like Burlington and other quaint small towns. Medical and religious exemptions are allowed and vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers.



Burlington



Green Mountains



Skiing

## New Hampshire

Vaccine Exemptions: Medical, Religious

How to Obtain Exemption

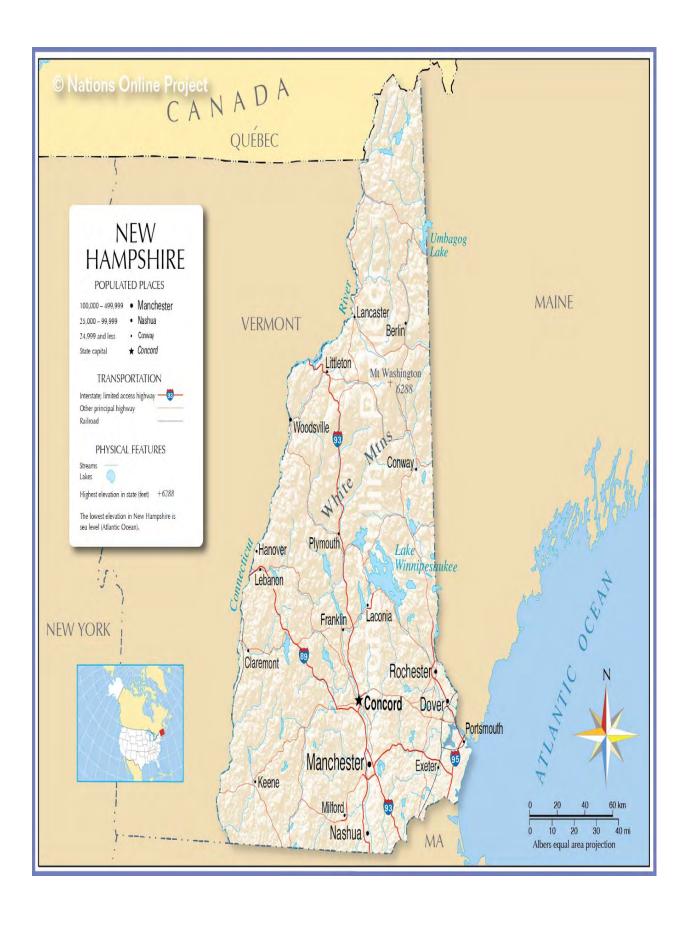
Healthcare Provider for Medical Exemption, Parent/Guardian Signature for Religious Exemption

Religious Information Asked?

No

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschool?

No



## About the State

New Hampshire is home to mountains, coastline, and cities like Manchester. Medical and religious exemptions are allowed and vaccines or exemptions are not required for homeschoolers.



Rye



Manchester



New Hampshire Mountains

Maine

Vaccine Exemptions (As of 2022): Medical Exemptions Only

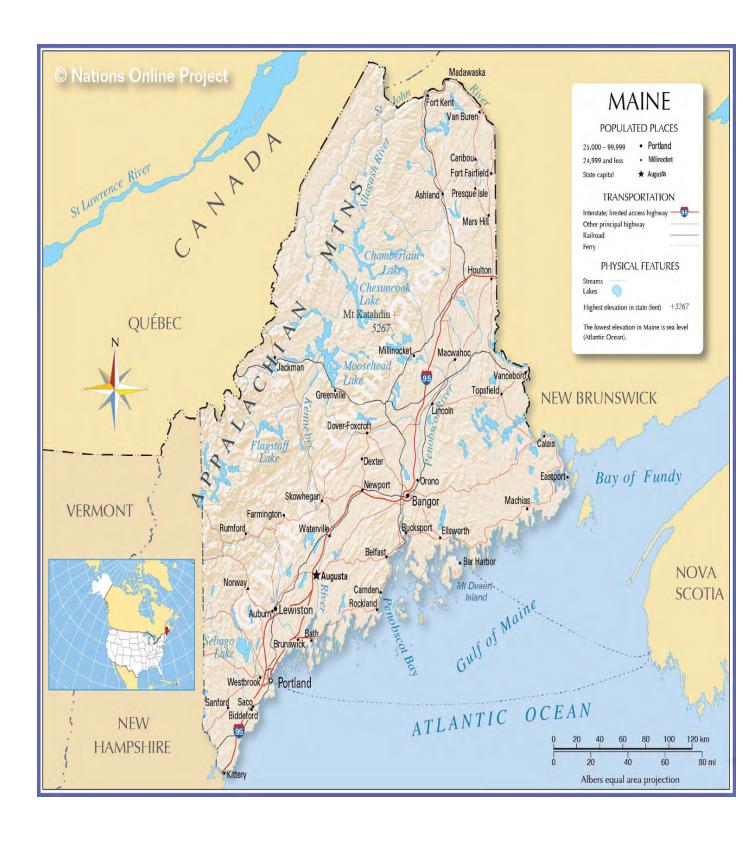
How to Obtain an Exemption

Physician for Medical Exemption. Religious or Philosophical Exemptions only allowed for students with an IEP that was in place as of September 1st, 2021 under certain circumstances.

Religious Information Asked?

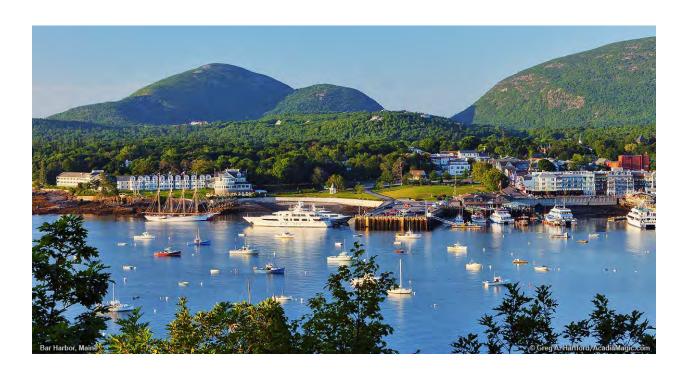
No Religious Exemptions

Vaccines or Exemptions Required for Homeschoolers? Unclear, but probably not.



## About the State

Maine is home to great seafood, cliffs by the ocean, Acadia National Park, and cities like Portland. Unless you can get a medical exemption, homeschooling is probably the only option for medical freedom living.



#### Additional Information

#### What about U.S Territories?

U.S Territories have the same system for vaccine laws that U.S states do. Out of the five territories with a sizable population, Guam, American Samoa, U.S Virgin Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, and Puerto Rico, do not require vaccines or exemptions for homeschoolers. Each of these territories offers a medical exemption, and each of these territories except the Northern Mariana Islands allows medical and religious exemptions.

#### What are Canada's vaccine laws?

According to a 2011 article on the National Library of Medicine, most provinces in Canada do not really have vaccine requirements. The provinces that do have vaccine requirements, Manitoba Ontario and New Brunswick, allow exemptions to the requirements for medical reasons, religious reasons, and reasons of conscience. However, Canada has had harsh covid restrictions as a whole, so going to Canada could be more totalitarian when it comes to covid restrictions.

## Additional Link

# Article on vaccine laws in Canada

