

Guidelines for Obtaining an Exemption for Medical Reasons

TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TITLE 25 §97.62

Exclusions from compliance are allowable on an individual basis for medical contraindications, reasons of conscience, including a religious belief, and active duty with the armed forces of the United States. Children and students in these categories must submit evidence for exclusion from compliance as specified in the Health and Safety Code, §161.004(d), Health and Safety Code, §161.0041, Education Code, Chapter 38, Education Code, Chapter 51, and the Human Resources Code, Chapter 42.

(1) To claim an exclusion for medical reasons, the child or student must present a statement signed by the child's physician (M.D. or D.O.), duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the United States who has examined the child, in which it is stated that, in the physician's opinion, the vaccine required is medically contraindicated or poses a significant risk to the health and well-being of the child or any member of the child's household. Unless it is written in the statement that a lifelong condition exists, the exemption statement is valid for only one year from the date signed by the physician.

You must present the original letter from the physician to the school nurse upon enrollment. Per Texas state law, students may NOT be enrolled provisionally while awaiting their conscientious objection affidavit or medical exemption letter.

For more information contact the Immunization Branch at (512) 458-7284 or (800) 858-9152.