

Request for an Exception to the COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement Due to Student's Religious Belief



Sidwell Friends School (the “School”) is committed to the safety and health of its community and to providing excellent, in-person educational programming for its students. The School has therefore implemented a policy whereby all vaccine-eligible students must be vaccinated for COVID-19 prior to the start of the 2021/22 school year.

However, the School will review on a case-by-case basis, requests for an exemption from this vaccination requirement by those who will not receive a vaccine for a sincerely held religious belief, practice, or observance (please note that no exemption will be made due to a student’s philosophical or political objection to receiving a COVID-19 vaccine). A student seeking a religious exemption must upload this form to Magnus Health (click “Health Forms” on the [Parent Portal](#)) by July 15, 2021, along with a written statement that includes the following information:

1. The student’s religious belief, practice, or observance that precludes the student from receiving a COVID-19 vaccination;
2. How long the student has held such religious belief, practice, or observance;
3. An explanation of why the student’s religious belief, practice, or observance precludes the student from receiving a COVID-19 vaccination; and
4. If the student has previously received other vaccinations, an explanation of why the student received vaccinations in the past but is requesting a religious exemption from the COVID-19 vaccine.

This information will be used by Health Services or other appropriate personnel to engage in an interactive process to determine whether the student is eligible for an exemption to the School’s COVID-19 vaccination policy and, if so, to determine the reasonable accommodations that can be provided that would enable the student to participate in School without posing a threat of harm to self or others.

Please fill out the form on the next page.

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To Be Completed By Parents/Guardians

By signing below, I am requesting that the School make a religious accommodation exempting my child from the requirement that all vaccine-eligible students receive a COVID-19 vaccination.

I certify that my request is made due to my child's sincerely held religious belief, practice, or observance.

I agree to engage in an interactive process to determine my child's eligibility for an exemption to the School's COVID-19 vaccination policy. I also understand that the School may deny my exemption request (or may subsequently withdraw its approval) if it determines that my request is not reasonable, poses a direct threat to the health and/or safety of others in the School and/or to my child, or creates an undue burden for the School.

I verify that the information I am submitting in support of my request for an accommodation for my child is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Print Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Student if 18 years or older

Date

Print Name of Student if 18 years or older