



Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

REQUEST FOR RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION FROM COVID-19 VACCINATION

The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA) is committed to building an inclusive and welcoming campus environment.

If your religious beliefs or practices conflict with PAFA's COVID-19 vaccination requirement, please provide the following information.

Please print the following information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain in your own words why you are seeking a religious exemption, the religious principles that guide your objection to immunization, and please indicate whether you are opposed to all immunizations, and if not, the religious basis on which you object to COVID-19 immunizations. (You may attach additional written pages or other supporting materials if you so choose. Some examples of supporting materials are listed on page 2.)

Four horizontal lines for providing an explanation.

Verification and Accuracy

I verify that the above information I have provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and I understand that any intentional misrepresentation contained in this request may result in disciplinary action, which may include suspension/dismissal. My request for an exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement is based upon my religious beliefs. I understand that my request for an exemption may not be granted if it creates an undue hardship for the College.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if <18 years old) \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Confidentiality of Information Provided

Requests for exemptions and any documents provided will be kept confidential and shared only with those university employees who have a need to know.

## *Summary of Next Steps*

Scan and send this completed form to [pafahealth@pobox.pafa.edu](mailto:pafahealth@pobox.pafa.edu).

1. This request will be reviewed and acknowledged by the College.
2. If after reviewing the request, the College is unable to make a determination because of inadequate information or questions remain about the religious nature or the sincerity of a particular belief or practice, the College may, at its sole discretion, request additional information. **Some examples of additional/supporting information may include:**
  - A letter from religious/spiritual leader, member, or person with personal knowledge from the religious organization attended by the requestor explaining the doctrine/beliefs that prohibit all immunizations and/or the COVID-19 immunization;
  - Literature from the religious organization or other writings and sources upon which the requestor has relied in formulating their religious beliefs that prohibit all immunizations and/or the COVID-19 immunization;
  - Copies of previous statements submitted to other institutions of higher education, and/or school districts explaining the requestor's religious basis for refusing immunization; and
  - Any documents or other information the requestor may be willing to provide that reflect their sincerely held religious objection to immunization and/or the COVID-19 immunization.
3. After review, you will be notified of the decision regarding your requested religious exemption.
4. If you are granted a religious exemption, you will be required to undergo COVID-19 testing (the frequency of the testing will be determined by the College) in addition to observing all COVID-19 health and safety protocols and will be informed of any additional accommodations.
5. PAFA will reconsider a denial only if you bring forth new information supporting your request. For reconsideration of a denial, please contact the Dean of Students.

If you feel this decision by the College violates your civil rights, you may file a discrimination complaint with the Office of Institutional Safety and Equity.