

TABLE 9.13A

**School Immunization Exemptions**

State	Religious exemption <sup>1</sup>	Philosophical exemption <sup>2</sup>	Only medical exemption
Alabama	Y	...	...
Alaska	Y	...	...
Arizona	Y	Y	...
Arkansas	Y	Y	...
California	...	...	Y
Colorado	Y	Y	...
Connecticut	Y	...	...
Delaware	Y	...	...
Florida	Y	...	...
Georgia	Y	...	...
Hawaii	Y	...	...
Idaho	Y	Y	...
Illinois	Y	...	...
Indiana	Y	...	...
Iowa	Y	...	...
Kansas	Y	...	...
Kentucky	Y	...	...
Louisiana	Y(a)	Y	...
Maine	...	...	Y(d)
Maryland	Y	...	...
Massachusetts	Y	...	...
Michigan	Y	Y	...
Minnesota	Y(a)	Y	...
Mississippi	...	...	Y
Missouri	Y	(c)	...
Montana	Y	...	...
Nebraska	Y	...	...
Nevada	Y	...	...
New Hampshire	Y	...	...
New Jersey	Y	...	...
New Mexico	Y	...	...
New York	...	...	Y
North Carolina	Y	...	...
North Dakota	Y	Y	...
Ohio	Y	Y	...
Oklahoma	Y	Y	...
Oregon	Y	Y	...
Pennsylvania	Y	Y	...
Rhode Island	Y	...	...
South Carolina	Y	...	...
South Dakota	Y	...	...
Tennessee	Y	...	...
Texas	Y	Y	...
Utah	Y	Y	...
Vermont	Y	...	...
Virginia	Y	(b)	...
Washington	Y	Y	...
West Virginia	...	...	...
Wisconsin	Y	Y	...
Wyoming	Y	...	...

Sources: Adapted from the LexisNexis StateNet Database and the Immunization Action Coalition, May 2019, <http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/school-immunizationexemption-state-laws.aspx> and updates by The Council of State Governments, June 2019.

**Notes:**

1. Religious Exemption: Indicates that there is a provision in the statute that allows parents to exempt their children from vaccination if it contradicts their sincere religious beliefs.
2. Philosophical Exemption: Indicates that the statutory language does not restrict the exemption to purely religious or spiritual beliefs.

**Key:**

...—No provision for.

- (a) The existing statute in Minnesota and Louisiana does not explicitly recognize religion as a reason for claiming an exemption, however, as a practical matter, the non-medical exemption may encompass religious beliefs.
- (b) In Virginia, parents can receive a personal exemption only for the HPV vaccine.
- (c) Missouri's personal belief exemption does not apply to public schools, only child care facilities.
- (d) Maine enacted a measure that will ban non-medical exemptions by 2021.