

# REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM COVID-19 VACCINE



The University of Toronto and its federated colleges require all students, faculty, librarians, and staff during the 2021-22 academic year to be vaccinated for COVID-19.

Our top priority is to support the health and well-being of all members of the U of T community as we return to our campuses. The University recognizes that for some individuals, immunization may conflict with their sincerely held convictions based on their religion/creed.

**An exemption from vaccination may be requested on grounds protected under the Ontario Human Rights Code. This form is for those seeking an exemption due to [creed/religious beliefs](#).**

**An exemption may only be granted if all the following apply:**

- the individual holds a sincere belief, based on the creed/religion they practice, that they are not permitted to be vaccinated against COVID-19,
- the individual completes this form that is signed and sworn or affirmed before a Commissioner for Taking Affidavits or Notary.

**Please note that a singular belief or personal preference against vaccination is not protected on the ground of creed under the Ontario Human Rights Code.**

**Please note that approval is not guaranteed.**

For faculty, librarians, and staff, requests will be reviewed by Human Resources & Equity in consultation with the Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty & Academic Life and/or the University Chief Librarian.

**Incomplete submissions will not be reviewed. Be sure that the form is complete prior to submission.**

For students, the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students, will carefully review all requests.

**You will be notified in writing if your exemption has been granted or denied.**

In the event of an outbreak of COVID-19 in the residence(s), additional limitations may be invoked in accordance with local public health guidance in order to protect your health and the health of other residents.

If the exemption is approved, it will remain in effect for the duration of the 2021-22 academic year (i.e. until August 31, 2022). Individuals with an approved exemption may be required to comply with COVID-19 testing and other preventive measures as specified in the exemption approval. Such measures may be updated by later notification.

Should the exemption be denied, you will be informed as to the reasons why and will have the opportunity to submit additional information.

First Name		Last Name		Student or Personnel Number	
Email Address		U of T Email Address (if available)		Telephone Number	

<b>Parent / Legal Guardian Information</b> (For individuals under the age of 18)			
First Name		Last Name	
Email Address		Telephone Number	

## Importance of COVID-19 Vaccines

**Vaccines are safe, effective and the best way to protect you and those around you from serious illnesses like COVID-19.**

Vaccines work with your immune system so your body will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. This can reduce your risk of developing COVID-19 and make your symptoms milder if you do get it.

Source: [COVID-19 vaccines for Ontario](#)

Please refer to the [three-part series](#) on COVID-19 Vaccines and [This is Our Shot](#).

## Affidavit

Please note that the affidavit needs to be commissioned or notarized. Only certain individuals, by their position or through an application, are authorized to commission or notarize documents. If you are submitting your affidavit from outside of Canada, please ensure that the affidavit has been properly commissioned or notarized based on your country's requirements.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, make oath or solemnly affirm and say as follows:

- I request exemption from the COVID-19 immunization requirement due to my sincere creed/religious beliefs. I understand and assume the risks of non-vaccination. Please state the reason(s) for the exemption request here.

*Please describe the religious belief(s) based on religion and/or creed that precludes you from being vaccinated.*

- I have watched [the series](#) regarding COVID-19 vaccines.
- I accept full responsibility for my health.
- I understand that as I am not vaccinated, in order to protect my own health and the health of the community, I will comply with additional public health measures that may include regular COVID-19 testing, self-assessments and the wearing of a mask.
- I understand that in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak, additional public health measures such as self-isolation may be required. I agree to comply with these restrictions.
- Should I experience symptoms of COVID-19, be identified as a close contact of an individual with COVID-19 or test positive for COVID-19, I will immediately report it to the University's Occupational Health Nurse. I will comply with all isolation procedures specified by the Occupational Health Nurse.
  - If I am a faculty, librarian, or staff member I will also inform my Manager, Supervisor, Dean, Chair, or Academic Director.
  - If I am a student living in a UofT residence, I will also immediately report to my residence.
- I understand and agree to comply with and abide by all University and, if applicable residence, COVID-19 policies and procedures.
- I certify that the information I have provided in connection with this request to be exempted from the vaccination requirement at the University of Toronto is accurate and complete.

Signature		Date	
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<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY A COMMISSIONER FOR TAKING AFFIDAVITS OR A NOTARY PUBLIC</b>	
Sworn or solemnly affirmed before me at: (city)	
In: (Province, State/ Country)	
On (Date)	
Signature of a commissioner for taking Affidavits or a notary public	
Type or print name:	
Title:	
Address:	

Signature of Individual	
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian if individual is under the age of 18.	

I understand this exception may be revoked and I may be subject to disciplinary action if any of the information I provided in support of this exemption is false.

The University of Toronto respects personal privacy. Personal information that is provided on this form is used by the University to verify your religious/creed exemption from the requirement to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to attend a U of T campus and/or live in a U of T residence. At all times it will be protected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have questions, please contact your campus administrator and/or the University's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Office.

Alteration or falsification of information on this form may constitute an offence under the Code of Student Conduct and/or applicable collective agreement or employment policy.

**PLEASE RETAIN A COPY OF ALL DOCUMENTS FOR YOUR FILES**