



Complete the exemption form and sign below

Students – send to SAO@vsu.edu

Employee – send to ADArequests@vsu.edu

RELIGIOUS OBJECTION/EXEMPTION TO COVID-19 VACCINATION

The University will grant an exemption to the vaccine requirement when a student’s/employee’s sincerely-held religious beliefs preclude vaccination. A religious exemption will not be granted based on a philosophical, moral, or conscientious objection. Please describe below why your sincerely-held religious beliefs preclude you from receiving the COVID-19 vaccination.

1. I, the undersigned, certify that I am over eighteen (18) years of age and competent to make this certificate.
If the student is under age 18, Parent/Guardian Signature: _____
2. I understand that Virginia State University (VSU) requires all students and employees to be vaccinated and provide documented proof of vaccination against COVID-19 before being enrolled at the University and/or allowed to routinely appear on campus full time for the upcoming academic semester.
3. I understand that Virginia State University has determined:
 - a. that the required vaccination is necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among students and employees of the University;
 - b. that data evaluated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as of the date of this certificate has shown that the required vaccinations are at least 85% effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and have therefore been given emergency use authorization by the FDA;
 - c. that a student or employee who does not receive the required vaccination is at increased risk of contracting COVID-19 while on campus and spreading to other students or employees at the University and to other persons; and
 - d. that a student or employee who does not receive the required vaccination is not eligible to receive the financial incentive.
4. I sincerely affirm that vaccination is contrary to my religious beliefs, and that my objections to this vaccination are **not** based solely on grounds of personal philosophy, preference or inconvenience.
5. I understand and accept that, notwithstanding my religious objections, I may be excluded from on-campus facilities, including student housing facilities (if a student), during an epidemic/pandemic or threatened epidemic/pandemic of any disease preventable by a vaccination required by the University, and that I may still be required to later receive the vaccination if required by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) as provided in [Virginia Code Section 32.1-13 & 32.1-20](#).

Student/Employee Signature: _____