

POLICY ON CHILD'S HEALTH EXEMPTION TO IMMUNIZATION AS APPLIED TO SCHOOL CHILDREN

**INDIANA CODE 20-8.1-7-2.5 as added by the
1976 Indiana General Assembly States:**

"Exception for Child's Health. If any physician certifies that a particular immunization required by this chapter is or may be detrimental to the child's health, the requirements of this chapter for that particular immunization is inapplicable for that child until it is found no longer detrimental to the child's health."

A written document, signed by the physician, must state that a particular immunization is contraindicated for a child because it is detrimental to the child's health. This Indiana State Department of Health policy requires that a written statement be verified by the school personnel each year until it is found that the particular immunization is no longer detrimental to the child's health.

POLICY ON RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION TO IMMUNIZATION AS APPLIED TO SCHOOL CHILDREN

**Indiana Code 20-8.1-7-2 as amended by the
1993 General Assembly States:**

"Except as otherwise provided, a school child may not be required to undergo any testing, examination, immunization, or treatment required under this chapter when the child's parent objects on a religious grounds. A religious exemption does not exempt a child from any testing, examination, immunization, or treatment required under this chapter unless the objection is:

- (1) made in writing;
- (2) signed by the child's parent; and
- (3) delivered to the child's teacher or to the individual who might order a test, an exam, an immunization, or treatment absent the objection."

The written document, signed by the parent, must state that the objection to immunization is based on religious grounds. There is no requirement that the statement must be from the pastor of a church, appear on church letterhead, or provide proof that they are members of a religious organization. The Indiana State Department of Health policy requires that the written statement be verified by the parent each year.