



Washington State Office of Civil Legal Aid

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COVID-19 Vaccination Exemption/Accommodation Policy for Contractors

Contractors claiming an exemption from the vaccination protocols outlined in [Supreme Court Order No. 25700-B-669](#) due to a sincerely held religious belief or a medical condition rendering them unable to safely receive a COVID-19 vaccination are first required to advise the Children's Representation Program Manager of the request. Contractors who claim either of these exemptions will then work directly with CRP staff to determine whether standards-based representation is possible and, if so, how best to accommodate the contractor's ability to represent children given the totality of the circumstances involved.

An agreement outlining the terms of each exempt contractor's continued engagement must be made. All contractors who are exempt must comply with the following minimum protocols to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19:

1. Prior to any in-person contact, Contractor must inquire as to what, if any, safety and prevention measures the client (and the client's caretakers, for in-home visits) wish Contractor to follow. Examples of safety and prevention measures include:
 - a. Meet the child outdoors, with or without masks
 - b. Meet the child indoors, masked
 - c. Maintain six feet of "social distance" during the course of the meeting
 - d. Administer a COVID-19 antigen rapid test up to 24 hours prior to the meeting and only meeting upon a showing of negative results
2. Contractor shall accommodate and comply with any and all safety and prevention measures requested by the client (or the client's placement, for in-home visits). For clients who are too young to verbalize a preference, Contractor shall follow the preferences of the client's placement.
3. In the event Contractor tests positive for COVID-19 or any variant thereof at any time, Contractor shall follow current [guidelines](#) from the Center for Disease Control on isolation protocol and precautions. Contractor shall also notify the OCLA Program Manager that they have tested positive and advise of any time-sensitive client representational responsibilities that Contractor will be unable to address.
4. Contractor shall immediately notify OCLA if Contractor is unable to comply with the terms of this Accommodation.

Revised CRP Contractor Vaccination Exemption/Accommodation Policy
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Additional accommodations may be made on an individual basis. OCLA will continue to review CDC and Washington State guidance to inform policy and procedures. Vaccine exemption information will remain confidential.