

**Application for Exemption from COVID-19 Vaccination
Requirement on Religious Grounds***

Employee Name: _____

Employee Number/SSN: _____

Employee Email Address: _____

Employee Telephone Number: _____

Employee Position and Duty Location: _____

I certify that immunization against COVID-19, or being vaccinated with any of the COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, and Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine), is contrary to my religious belief, observance, or practice.

Accordingly, I request exemption from the COVID-19 vaccine requirement imposed pursuant to CMS's Medicare and Medicaid Programs: Omnibus COVID-19 Health Care Staff Vaccination.

Signature of Employee

Date

* Under applicable federal law, an individual can seek a religious exemption regardless of whether the religious beliefs, observances, or practices are common or non-traditional, and regardless of whether they are recognized by any organized religion. "Religion" includes "all aspects of religious observance and practice as well as belief," not just practices that are mandated or prohibited by a tenet of the individual's faith. A belief is "religious" if it is "religious" in the person's "own scheme of things," i.e., it is a "sincere and meaningful" belief that "occupies a place in the life of its possessor parallel to that filled by . . . God." An employee's belief, observance, or practice can be "religious" even if the employee is affiliated with a religious group that does not espouse or recognize that individual's belief, observance, or practice, or if few – or no – other people adhere to it. Religious beliefs include "moral or ethical beliefs as to what is right and wrong which are sincerely held with the strength of traditional religious views."