

Medical Exemption Process

Submission of Vaccine Status/Exemption Request

- CBC students will attest to their COVID-19 vaccination status through the secure COVID-19 Vaccine Student Attestation Form. Students who indicate a medical or religious exemption are required to submit the COVID-19 Vaccine Medical Exemption Form completed by their licensed health care provider, to the Disability Support Services (DSS) Office. The exemption is not effective unless it has been evaluated and approved by the DSS Office.

Evaluation

- DSS staff will review and evaluate the documentation provided by the student to determine whether the requested exemption and accommodation are necessary and reasonable, and may contact the student if further information or documentation is needed to evaluate the requested exemption.
- If the exemption is necessary, DSS staff will determine reasonable accommodations for the exemption by considering factors such as the requirements of the student's program of study, CBC health and safety protocol, policies, rules, and procedures, the frequency, predictability and/or level of interactions with others while on campus, transmission statistics for the area, and any other relevant information. The DSS staff may consult with other college officials as necessary to determine reasonable accommodations.

Notification of Decision

- The DSS Office will notify the student of the approval or denial of the requested exemption and approved reasonable accommodation within 21 instructional days of receipt of the request.
- The notification will also advise the student of the following:
 1. If necessary, an appointment is required for the student to meet with DSS staff to implement the accommodation(s);
 2. The notification applies only to CBC and does not reflect the decision of any clinical site, if applicable; and
 3. The suitability of the currently approved accommodation may change due to the evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on College policies and operations.

Approval of Exemption/Accommodation Request

If the student is notified that a follow up appointment is needed to implement the accommodation, the student is responsible for contacting the DSS Office to schedule an appointment to determine implementation of the approved accommodation within 10 days of the notification.

Denial of Exemption/Accommodation Request

- Exemptions and accommodations are denied if they are unnecessary and/or unreasonable. Some of the factors considered include, but are not limited to, failure to provide documentation from a licensed health care provider, or the requested accommodation imposes an undue financial and/or administrative burden on the College, fundamentally alters the standards of a course or program, would pose a direct threat to the health and safety of others, or would cause substantial damage to the property of others.
- If an exemption and/or accommodation request is denied, the student will receive a notification email from the DSS Office, which will include the reason for the denial.

Requests for Reconsideration

- Within 10 days of the notice of denial of an exemption or accommodation request, the student may submit a request for reconsideration to medexemption@columbiabasin.edu if the student has new, previously unavailable information or documentation.
- DSS staff will evaluate the new information as described in the Evaluation section above and notify the student of the decision.
- The reconsideration decision is the final decision of this exemption and accommodation request process.

Discrimination Complaint

- A student who believes they have been discriminated against based on protected class status may file a complaint under the College's [Non-Discrimination & Harassment Policy and Procedure](#).