

THE STATE SCHOOL AID ACT OF 1979 (EXCERPT)
Act 94 of 1979

***** 388.1875i.amended THIS AMENDED SECTION IS EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2022 *****

388.1875i.amended Mandatory COVID-19 vaccine policy; exemptions; written report.

Sec. 275i. (1) If a public university that receives an appropriation in section 236 establishes a mandatory COVID-19 vaccine policy, it shall provide exemptions to that policy to the following students and employees:

(a) Any student or employee for whom a physician certifies that a COVID-19 vaccine is or may be detrimental to the student's or employee's health or is not appropriate.

(b) Any student or employee who provides a written statement to the effect that the requirements of the COVID-19 vaccine policy cannot be met because of religious convictions or other consistently held objection to immunization.

(2) It must be presumed that a student or employee who requests an exemption under subsection (1) is entitled to that exemption. The public university shall grant that student's or employee's request unless it determines by clear and convincing evidence that the student or employee is not entitled to that exemption. A public university shall not deny an exemption solely because the student or employee previously received another vaccine.

(3) A public university shall not deny a student's or employee's request for an exemption until it has explored every reasonable accommodation. An accommodation more burdensome or stringent than relevant state or federal guidelines is presumptively unreasonable.

(4) If a public university denies a student's or employee's request for an exemption, the public university shall issue a written report fully explaining its reasons for the denial. That report must describe all reasonable accommodations the public university offered the student or employee and the student's or employee's response.

(5) Every public university shall submit a written report regarding its actions taken under this section no later than March 15 of each year to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on higher education, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director. This annual report must include the following information, which may be obtained from any reliable source that complies with applicable laws regarding student privacy:

(a) The number of students and employees who have requested an exemption from the public university's COVID-19 vaccine policy.

(b) The number of students and employees who have been granted an exemption.

(c) The number of students and employees in noncompliance with the public university's COVID-19 vaccine policy.

(6) No provision of this section is to be construed as requiring a public university to violate any federal law.

History: Add. 2020, Act 165, Eff. Oct. 1, 2020;—Am. 2021, Act 86, Eff. Oct. 1, 2021;—Am. 2022, Act 144, Eff. Oct. 1, 2022.