

# Statement of Religious Belief

## Request for Accommodation from Mandatory Vaccination

SECTION 1 – REQUESTER INFORMATION	
Last Name:	First Name:
Student or Employee ID No. and NorQuest email:	
Address:	
SECTION 2 – DECLARATION OF REQUESTER	
<p><i>Please explain within the text box below or by way of an attached letter why you are unable to be vaccinated due to your religion. Please ensure you provide background on your religious belief and connect the religious belief to the reason you are requesting an exemption. If possible, please provide supporting documentation published by religious leaders or others practicing your religion.</i></p>	
SECTION 3 – DECLARATION OF RELIGIOUS LEADER OR WITNESS	

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of religious leader)

certify that, due to a religious belief, the named person should be exempted from the requirements of NorQuest College for persons attending the college campus to be vaccinated against COVID-19 with a Health Canada or WHO-approved vaccine.

***Please state the reason(s) for the accommodation request here. Please describe the religious belief(s) that preclude the person from being vaccinated.***

#### SECTION 4 – SIGNATURE OF RELIGIOUS LEADER OR WITNESS

Name of Religious Leader or Witness:

Business Address:

Signature of Religious Leader or Witness:

Date:

#### SECTION 5 – IMPORTANT INFORMATION (PLEASE READ)

NorQuest College (“NorQuest”) requires that all persons attending campus or events”) at NorQuest be vaccinated against COVID-19 unless they have a valid exemption.

In order to receive a valid exemption for non-medical reasons, the person must complete this Statement of Religious Belief form.

### **Risks of not being vaccinated:**

**You may be more likely to be exposed to the COVID-19 virus than others if you live in a group setting or participate in group activities in closed/crowded spaces where the COVID-19 virus may transmit more easily.**

**COVID-19 can result in severe illness. Those who are at particular risk of developing more severe disease or outcomes from COVID-19 are people:**

- **who are older adults (increasing risk with each decade, especially over 60 years)**
- **of any age with chronic medical conditions, including: lung disease, heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, kidney disease, liver disease, dementia, or stroke**
- **of any age who are immunocompromised, including those with an underlying medical condition, such as cancer or those taking medications which lower the immune system, such as chemotherapy**
- **living with obesity, such as having a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or higher**

**Vaccination is one of the most effective ways to protect our families, communities, and ourselves against COVID-19. Evidence indicates that vaccines are effective at preventing serious outcomes, such as severe illness, hospitalization, and death due to COVID-19. A growing body of evidence indicates that people fully vaccinated with an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna) are less likely to have asymptomatic infection or to transmit COVID-19 to others.**

### **Sources:**

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks.html#vaccination>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/fully-vaccinatedpeople.html>

I, \_\_\_\_\_ am a person who wishes to attend NorQuest College campus or events and make oath or solemnly affirm and say as follows:

1. The requirements of NorQuest College's mandatory vaccination policy for persons attending campus conflict with my sincerely held convictions based on my religion.
2. I understand that should an outbreak occur, the authority having jurisdiction or NorQuest College may impose additional restrictions or requirements on me for health and safety reasons which may not apply to others on campus who have been fully vaccinated.
3. I understand that NorQuest College may require me to follow additional health and safety protocols, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Mandatory COVID testing and disclosure of test results
  - b. Masking and/or physical distancing; and/or
  - c. Remote working/learning.
4. I understand that I may choose to be vaccinated at a later date
5. I request that I be exempted from the vaccination requirements of NorQuest College.

The personal information requested on this form is collected in full accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. The personal information will only be used to make a decision on a request for an accommodation from a mandatory vaccination. Certain personal information will be shared between Alio Health Services and NorQuest College to process the accommodation requests. Students - For information about the collection, use, and disclosure of this information, contact the Senior Manager of Resolution, Wellness & Accessibility, 10215 – 108 Street, Edmonton, AB, T5J 1L6. Telephone: 780-644-6158. Employees - For information about the collection, use, and disclosure of this information, contact the Director of People and Talent Operations, 10215 – 108 Street, Edmonton, AB, T5J 1L6. Telephone: 780-644-6183.

# Appendix 1

## COVID-19 Rapid Testing and Test Disclosure Protocol

All individuals who are not fully vaccinated (including those who have been granted or are in the process of requesting a medical or religious exemption) are required to participate in the COVID-19 Rapid Testing and Test Disclosure Protocol to attend NorQuest College campus.

### **Protocol**

1. Individuals are required to get regular COVID-19 tests within 72 hours of coming to campus.
2. Individuals will book their appointment with NorQuest College's health care partner based on availability and their schedule.
3. The test screening will be administered by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party contracted health care partner.
4. Testing will take place on NorQuest Campus.
5. Individuals must wait for the test result before going anywhere else on campus.
6. Individuals who test positive will be counseled on next steps by the Health Care partner and must comply with all legal obligations set forth by the authorities having jurisdiction.
7. Testing information will be kept confidential in accordance with applicable privacy laws.

**Please Note:** Participants must test at the required frequency – there are no other options for rapid testing. Failure to appear or participate in rapid testing will be treated as a violation and the individual will NOT be permitted to attend NorQuest College campus and may be subject to disciplinary measures.