

REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM USE OF MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY RESTRAINTS

FOR OREGON RESIDENTS ONLY

Please read instructions on Page 2 before completing this form. Pages 1 and 2 are both required for submission to ODOT.

An exemption may be requested on behalf of a patient only by a medical provider who is a licensed physician, physician associate, or nurse practitioner or a Veteran's Administration treating physician and it must be subsequently verified by ODOT to meet criteria specified in ORS 811.220.

By signing this application, both applicant and medical provider acknowledge that they have read Page 2 of this form and understand the following Oregon Revised Statute 811.220:

ORS 811.220 Certificates of exemption from safety belt requirement. The Director of Transportation shall issue a certificate of exemption required under ORS 811.215 (Exemptions from safety belt requirements) for any person on whose behalf a statement signed by a physician, nurse practitioner or physician associate is presented to the Department of Transportation. For a physician's, nurse practitioner's or physician associate's statement to qualify under this section, the physician, nurse practitioner or physician associate giving the statement must set forth reasons in the statement why use of a child safety system, safety belt or safety harness by the person would be impractical or harmful to the person by reason of physical condition, medical problem or body size.

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I certify by my signature that I am a physician, physician associate or nurse practitioner licensed to practice in Oregon, and that in my judgment the patient named above should be exempted from use of a safety restraint system for the reason(s) described in this request.

MEDICAL PROVIDER SIGNATURE	DATE
X	

Send both pages of original request to:

Restraint Exemption Coordinator **ODOT Transportation Safety Office** 355 Capitol Street NE, MS 42 Salem, OR 97301

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATIENT AND MEDICAL PROVIDER

Safety restraint systems are required when traveling in motor vehicles on highways of the state except in those specific situations outlined in ORS 811.215. One of those situations is when a person has been issued a certificate of exemption by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) in accordance with ORS 811.220.

This exemption is allowed only if a physician, physician associate, or nurse practitioner deems that use of a safety restraint system would be impractical or harmful to an individual by reason of physical condition, medical problem or body size.

PLEASE consider motor vehicle restraint options carefully. A person who does not properly use a restraint system is much more likely to sustain serious injuries in a collision than one who is properly restrained. Oregon collision data for 2023 indicate that 30% of vehicle occupants killed in collisions were unbelted. Seat belts are the best defense against impaired, aggressive, and distracted drivers. Being buckled up during a collision helps keep you safe and secure inside your vehicle; being completely ejected from your vehicle is almost always deadly (NHTSA).

Important Information:

- ODOT requires a minimum of five (5) business days to act on requests.
- Federal law (U.S. Code 392.16) prohibits issuance of safety restraint exemptions to drivers who hold a Commercial Driver License (CDL).
- If the request is granted, ODOT will issue a wallet-size certificate directly to the patient and the patient
 must carry that certificate to claim exempt status while traveling in a motor vehicle in Oregon. (Other
 states may or may not honor this exemption.)
- The Oregon Attorney General advises medical providers to seek legal counsel before signing requests for exemption.
- Exemption is for both lap and shoulder belts. No partial exemptions are granted.
- By signing this application, both applicant and medical provider acknowledge that they have read Page 2 of this form and understand Oregon Revised Statute 811.220.

Questions about exemptions should be directed to the ODOT Transportation Safety Office, (503) 986-4199.

Patient Instructions:

Complete Part A of the request on Page 1, sign and date; give to your medical provider.

Medical Provider Instructions:

- If a patient is experiencing discomfort while using a safety restraint system, first review with them the options for improving belt fit described on the ODOT informational card, "Make Yourself Comfortable, Safety Belt Comfort Tips". Cards may be obtained free of charge by calling (503) 986-4199 and requesting Form 737-3458, stock number 330009.
- 2. Read the "Instructions for patient and medical provider" above, and these Medical Provider Instructions.
- 3. Complete Part B of the request on Page 1, fully describing how use of a safety restraint would be impractical or harmful to the patient and why, in your professional judgment, an exemption is justified.
- 4. Indicate if this request is for a permanent or temporary exemption and expiration date requested.
- 5. Initial this page to indicate you have read and understand the information on this page.
- 6. Sign and date on Page 1 and submit both pages of the request to ODOT.