



## Requesting a Claim of Hardship Exemption from the EID Program

*Please read the information below to see if you qualify  
for the Claim of Hardship Exemption and how to apply for it.*

### What is a Claim of Hardship Exemption?

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) allows applicants and recipients of the Employed Individuals with Disabilities (EID) Program to request a Claim of Hardship Exemption to waive the monthly fee for up to 6 months. This exemption is for people who temporarily cannot afford their EID monthly premium(s) due to financial hardship.

### What are the Criteria for Receiving a Hardship Exemption?

You must specify that your financial hardship is so severe that payment of the premium would “compromise [your] ability to obtain and provide basic food, shelter, and clothing for [yourself] or other members of the assistance unit or other legal dependents.”

### How to Apply for the Hardship Exemption?

If you feel that you qualify for a hardship exemption, please follow the below instructions:

- Request a Claim of Hardship Exemption (DHMH EID 2A) form from your caseworker.
- Complete the Claim of Hardship Exemption form.
  - Specify the reasons why payment of the premium (also referred to as an enrollment fee) keeps you from obtaining and providing food, shelter, or clothing for yourself or your family.
  - Write how many months you are requesting a hardship exemption (hardship cannot be granted for more than 6 months).
  - List all sources of income and your expenses.
  - Attach supporting documentation, if needed.
- Mail the form to the following address:

**Division of Eligibility Waiver Services (DEWS)**  
**Schaefer Tower**  
**6 St. Paul Street**  
**Suite 400**  
**Baltimore, MD 21202**

DHMH will evaluate the claim of hardship and notify you of its decision within 30 days of its receipt. *The hardship exception rules are based on COMAR 10.09.41.07C.*

If you have any questions about the EID Program or the hardship exemption, please contact:  
1-1-866-373-9651 (TTY: 1-866-373-9652). For questions about your eligibility call 410-767-7090.  
<http://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/eid>