



Stop Child Identity Theft

## What you need to know to protect your child

FACT

### Children are the #1 target of identity thieves

Kids' identities are 35 times more likely to be stolen than adults. That's because they often don't attempt to establish credit until their late teens, giving thieves years to work undetected.

FACT

### The threat against kids is growing fast

As more of our data goes online, criminals have easier access to the information they need. The Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council reported a 300% increase in calls related to child identity theft in 2014 alone.

FACT

### Identity theft can derail your child's path to adulthood

In addition to the financial cost of identity theft, it can take years to restore a child's identity. In that time, your child could be blocked from essential opportunities such as student loans, scholarships, credit cards and job offers.

FACT

### [kIDsafemaryland.org](http://kIDsafemaryland.org) can help

Visit us online to learn about this crime, the warning signs to look out for, and the steps you can take to safeguard your family.



Turn over to take the first step toward protecting your child >

[kIDsafemaryland.org](http://kIDsafemaryland.org)



## Request a credit freeze to protect your child now

Maryland law allows parents to request a credit freeze on behalf of their children. Once their credit is frozen, creditors cannot access credit reports to verify an application, which makes them highly unlikely to approve any applicants who attempt to use it.



## Where to go

To get started, submit a "credit freeze request" to the three credit agencies below.

### **Experian**

[www.experian.com/freeze](http://www.experian.com/freeze) | 1-888-397-3742  
P.O. Box 9554 | Allen, TX 75013

### **Equifax**

[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com) | 1-888-298-0045  
P.O. Box 105788 | Atlanta, GA 30348

### **TransUnion**

[www.transunion.com/securityfreeze](http://www.transunion.com/securityfreeze) | 1-888-909-8872  
P.O. Box 2000 | Chester, PA 19022



## What to include

You will be required to submit proof of identification with your request. Below is a list of common requirements. Check with each agency for complete instructions.

- Your full name, home mailing address and birth date
- Your child's full name, home mailing address and birth date
- Copy of your child's Social Security card and birth certificate (official copy only)
- Copy of ONE of the following forms of identification for you:
  - Social Security card
  - Birth certificate (official copy only)
  - Driver's license
  - Other government-issued identification
- Copy of utility bill verifying your name and home address
- A fee, not to exceed \$5 under Maryland law



## About kIDsafe

kIDsafe was developed by the Maryland Hospital Association in partnership with the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Maryland Office of the Attorney General and Maryland State Delegate Craig Zucker.

Visit [kIDsafemaryland.org](http://kIDsafemaryland.org) to learn more about freezing your child's credit.

