



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 most don't attempt to establish credit until their late teens, giving thieves years to work undetected.

**FACT**

**The threat against kids is growing fast**

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**

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 and job offers.

**FACT**

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

Visit [kIDsafemaryland.org](http://kIDsafemaryland.org) to learn how this crime works, how to tell if your child is at risk, and what steps you can take to safeguard your family.

**Turn over to start protecting your child >**



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## Protect your child: Request a credit freeze 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.



### How to get started

Submit a "credit freeze request" to the three credit agencies below. Proof of identification for you and your child will be required. There may also be a fee, which can't exceed \$5 under Maryland law. Check with each agency for complete instructions.

#### **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



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