

Employee Assistance Grants

Due to an overwhelming amount of applications to the Employee Assistance Grants, the MRLAEF is unable to provide individual responses and reasons for denial. Determinations for approval or denial of Employee Assistance Grants are final.

How were the Employee Assistance Grants (EAG) reviewed and accepted or declined?

1. Duplicate application entries were declined, preserving the most recent entry for further review.
2. Employee Assistance Grants were ONLY available to Michigan Residents working in Michigan: out-of-state applications were declined.
3. Social Security Numbers (SSN) were validated against IRS records:
 - a. Applications were declined when the *name and SSN did not match* IRS records
 - b. Applications were declined when the SSN came back as *currently not issued*. This error code would include persons applying with a deceased person's SSN.
4. All applicants whose SSN was validated by LexisNexis* and received a risk assessment higher than 20 moved forward in the review process.

**LexisNexis risk assessment. Lexis Nexis is a third-party vendor for risk reduction. LexisNexis risk assessment scores were calculated using the applicants name, SSN, and address as provided on their application submission. LexisNexis scores are used by the IRS, Michigan Department of Treasury, regional, state and federal law enforcement, and are admissible into court.*
5. As outlined in Senate Bill 748, only applicants working in National American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes 71 & 72 as outlined in the November 2020, MDHHS Face Mask and Gathering Order** were approved to move forward in the review process.

***A **NAICS** (pronounced NAKES) Code is a classification within the North American Industry Classification System. The **NAICS** System was developed for use by Federal Statistical Agencies for the collection, analysis and publication of statistical data related to the US Economy. NAICS codes 71 & 72 were outlined in the legislation that funded the Employee Assistance Grants.*

 - *NAICS Code 71: Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation include: Theaters, Dance Companies, Sports Teams, Arcades, Casinos, Bowling Centers, Fitness Centers and Recreational Centers.*
 - *NAICS Code 72: Accommodations and Food Services, include: Hotels, Casino Hotels, Bed and Breakfast, RV Parks, Caters, Food Trucks, Restaurants, Cafeterias, and Bars.*
6. Applicants were approved that provided a **complete** proof of employment that met the applications standards:
 - a. A valid check stub including: employer name, employee name and employment dates
 - b. A valid Proof of Impact letter including: employment date, employee name, a signature, and reference to the November 2020 MDHHS Face Mask and Gathering Order
7. Employee data was verified with employers as listed on the application.

Common Reasons for a Denial:

- Applicant submitted duplicate incorrect applications
- Applicant is not a resident of Michigan
- Applicant's social security number did not match IRS records
- Applicant's LexisNexis score was considered high risk
- Applicant's employer was categorized in a NAICS code that was not 71 or 72
- Applicant's Proof of Employment submission was not complete
- Applicant's submitted check stub did not include all of the required information: employer name, employee name and employment dates
- Applicant's submitted Proof of Impact letter did not include all of the required information: employment date, employee name, a signature, and reference to the November 2020 MDHHS Face Mask and Gathering Order
- Applicant's employer did not validate their claim of being impacted by the November Order.