

COVID-19-Related MIPS 2021 Performance Year Exception Application Steps

1. Visit the **QPP Exception Application** webpage:
<https://qpp.cms.gov/mips/exception-applications#extremeCircumstancesException-2021>.
2. Choose **"PY 2021"** at the top of the page.
3. Click **"Apply"** in the "Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances Exception Application Window is Now Open" rectangle.
4. Sign in if you have a **HARP** or an **EIDM** account.
OR
 Click **"Register"** under "Don't have an account?" and go through the steps to create a HARP account. (This registration process could take 15 minutes.)
 - a) NOTE: If you do not already have a HARP account, you can download more information [here](#) and watch video tutorials [here](#).
5. Once logged in, ensure **"Exceptions Applications"** is highlighted in the left column under the provider name.
6. Under the "Progress Summary" section, click **"+ Add New QPP Exception"**.
7. Two options will appear in a pop-up window. For the COVID-19-related exception, choose the second option: **"Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances Exception Application"**.
8. Click **"Continue"**.
9. Choose your reporting type: **"Individual or Group or Virtual Group"**.
10. Enter **NPI, TIN, or Group ID** depending on selection made in #9.
 - a) Don't know your NPI? Look it up [here](#).
11. Click **"Save and Continue"**.
12. Fill in **Demographic Info**.
13. Choose COVID-19 as the **"Event Type"**.
14. Enter information in the **"Event Date Ranges"** fields to reflect the dates during which COVID-19 impacted your ability to participate in MIPS in 2021.
15. In the **"Event Description"** section, enter text to describe how COVID-19 impacted your ability to collect MIPS data for an extended period of time.
 - a) Discussing any COVID-19-related burden that contributed to your decision to apply for this hardship is recommended.
 - b) NOTE: Be sure to retain documentation of circumstances supporting your application for your own records in the event you are selected by CMS for data validation or audit.
16. Select all four categories if you want to apply for exclusion from the entire 2021 MIPS program.
17. Click **"Submit For Review"**.