

FIA INFORMATION MEMO

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(Revised text appears in bold and italics)

TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT, FAMILY

INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION DIVISION STAFF

FROM: LA SHERRA AYALA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FIA

RE: REDETERMINATION PROCESSES AND INTERVIEWS IN THE

ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT (E&E) SYSTEM

PROGRAMS IMPACTED: SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE

PROGRAM (SNAP), TEMPORARY CASH

ASSISTANCE (TCA), TEMPORARY DISABILITY

ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TDAP), PUBLIC

ASSISTANCE TO ADULTS (PAA)

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

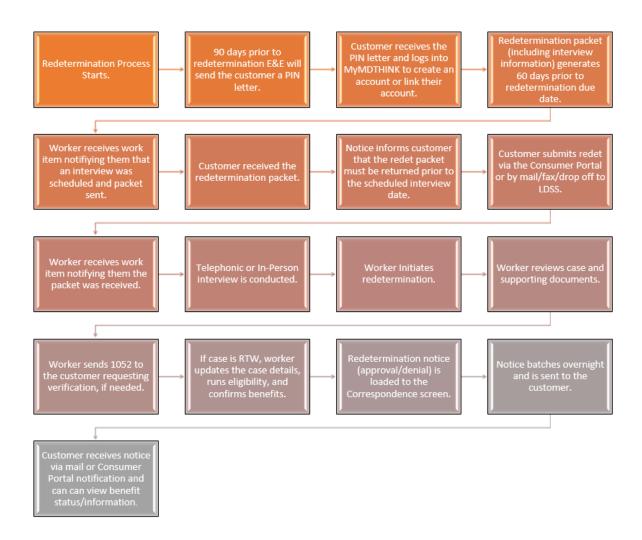
SUMMARY

No interviews are required for redeterminations due for January through March 31, 2022.

Mandatory redeterminations for all programs, except for Non-MAGI MA programs, resumed on January 3, 2022. The redetermination packets mailed prior to receiving the flexibility approval included Telephonic and In-Person interview schedules. The majority of the interviews are Telephonic with the exception of some In-Person interviews for customers without phone numbers on record. This information memo will guide local department staff through the redetermination and interview workflow process.

REDETERMINATION WORKFLOW SNAPSHOT:

Redetermination and Interview Process Snapshot



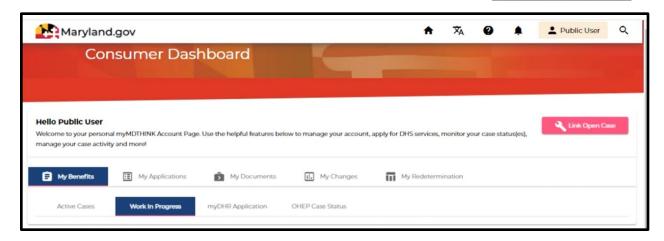
- ❖ If eligibility is not confirmed by the 15th of month, the certification ends, and a Notice of Adverse Action will be mailed to the customer.
- ❖ If the eligibility is not confirmed on or before the last day of the month (regardless of the redetermination initiation status), the case will close, and a closure notice will be mailed to the customer.

Purpose of the PIN letter

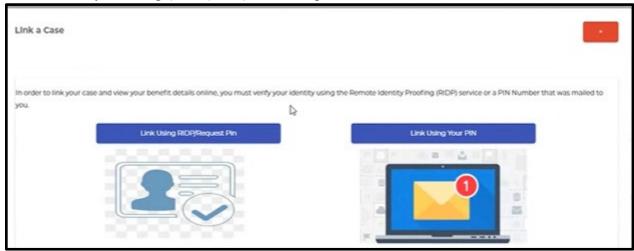
The purpose of the PIN letter is to encourage the customer to link their account 90 days in advance in order to allow them to complete their upcoming redetermination or future interim changes and/or applications electronically. If they do not link the account right away, once logged in they will still have the opportunity to link the case at their convenience.

Consumer Portal Linking Screen Information

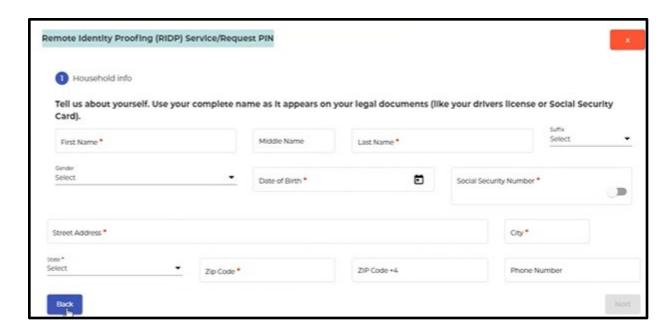
1. When a customer logs into their myMDTHINK account or creates a new myMDTHINK account, they will have the option to link their existing myDHR cases on the Consumer Dashboard in the Consumer Portal if it has not been previously linked. The Link Open Case is located on the right side of the dashboard in a pink box.



2. Once the box is checked, the customer will have two options: 1) Link with Remote Identity Proofing (RIDP) or 2) Link using their PIN.



3. The Remote Identity Proofing (RIPD) Service/Request PIN option may be used by the customer if no PIN was previously received.



4. The Link using the PIN option will allow the customer to use the PIN number they received in the mail. Once selected, the customer would select SSN, enter their SSN, and enter the PIN number and then click Submit.



Redetermination Schedule

February and March redetermination packets were mailed out as mail in redeterminations. No interviews were scheduled for February and March redeterminations.

No interviews are required for redeterminations due for January through March 31, 2022.

In E&E, January 2022 redetermination interviews were scheduled between December 27, 2021 and January 14, 2022. The LDSS has the option to do cold calls when a redetermination packet is received or reschedule the appointment as needed to fit the LDSS needs prior to the scheduled interview date. If a cold call and interview are completed with the household before the scheduled appointment, please remember to go into the system and cancel the scheduled appointment. Advise the customer to ignore the future appointment.

Starting with April 2022 redeterminations, all packets will be sent the first business day of the month prior to the eligibility determination month. Interview appointments will be scheduled between the 15th of the month prior to the redetermination being due and the 14th of the redetermination month. Please see examples below.

Redet Due Month	Packet Generation Date	Appointment Begin Date	Appointment End Date
January 2022	12/17/2021	12/27/2021	01/14/2022
February 2022	01/03/2022	N/A	N/A
March 2022	02/01/2022	N/A	N/A
April 2022	03/01/2022	03/15/2022	04/11/2022

Redetermination interview appointments end by the 14th of the redetermination month to allow customers adequate time to receive their packets and complete their interviews.

LDSS Capacity:

In the Setting menu on the E&E Taskbar, supervisors can update their LDSS capacity by month to indicate the month, number of workers available for the month, and their interview length time. The system will then calculate the total number of hours available for that LDSS. The capacity level can be updated at any time. *Note: Instructions and screen prints on how to update the LDSS capacity are located under the redetermination quick links section.*

Future enhancements will include a more comprehensive capacity update to be done by supervisors and include a weekly or daily schedule as opposed to monthly. This functionality is not currently used as a method for scheduling redeterminations but will be when E&E enhancements are finalized.

Interview Time Block Logic:

The two hour time block allows case managers the flexibility between interviews. Interviews are scheduled in 30 minute increments with two hour time blocks. For example, if a customer has an appointment at 9:00 am on December 15, 2021, the interview appointment in E&E will be saved in the interview schedule appointment as 9:00 am to 11:00 am and the interview notice will inform the customer that their interview time window is between 9:00 am and 11:00 am. Therefore, if the case manager is delayed, they can meet the interview timeframe if they call the customer anytime between 9:00 am and 11:00 am.

Naturally, there will be customers who will not pick up the first time that you call. When this occurs, the case manager should leave a voicemail detailing their name, the reason for the call, and a call back number.

<u>Interview Notifications (Application Only):</u>

If the customer has an account with myMDTHINK, they can view their interview notification via

the Consumer Portal and any other correspondence sent from the Worker Portal.

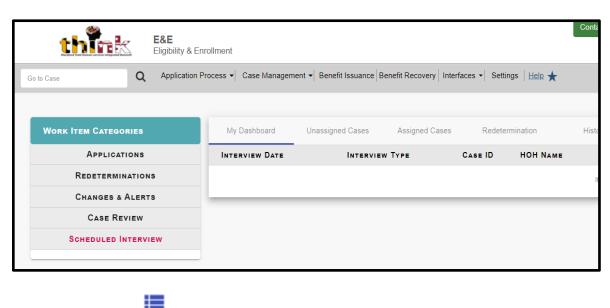
If the customer has an email address associated with their case, they will also receive an email notification notifying them of their upcoming interview.

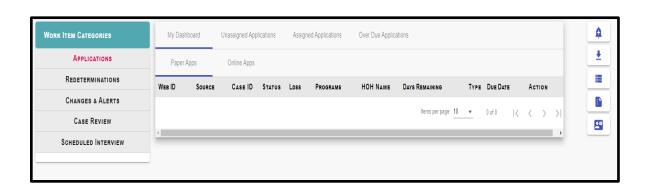
The customer will not receive a reminder via email or Consumer Portal after the initial notification at this time. A reminder notification function is slated for a future enhancement.

Only Application interview notifications are accessible to the customer. Future enhancements will allow Redetermination interview notifications to be viewed via Consumer Portal and email.

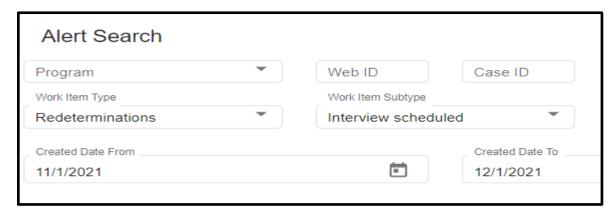
Viewing the Interview Schedule;

Dashboard - Under Work Item Categories, a case manager can review any scheduled interviews in the Scheduled Interview subcategory. Assigned and Unassigned interviews may be viewed here.





Once you click the icon this alert search box will appear.



Reports - The LDSS can view any upcoming telephonic interviews by reviewing the Redet_Compliance_Report_All Programs located in the E&E_FIA Compliance Reports Stream. The scheduled appointment date, time, and method is displayed. This report is refreshed every morning.

<u>Prerequisite to Completing the Redetermination Interview</u>

No redetermination interviews are required for January, February, and March 2022.

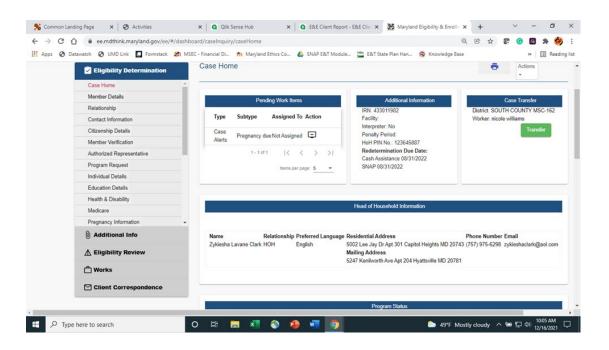
The LDSS must have received a completed paper or electronic redetermination packet prior to completing the interview.

- Of the redetermination is not received prior to the scheduled interview date, the interview will not be completed on that scheduled date. The case manager must narrate that the interview was not completed because the redetermination packet had not been received. When this occurs, the case manager should update the redetermination status to "Missed."
- o If a paper redetermination is received and it is not signed, the case manager can still complete the interview and send the customer a 1052 requesting a signature or any other additional information before updating the redetermination. E&E will allow you to add free form text to request the missing signature.

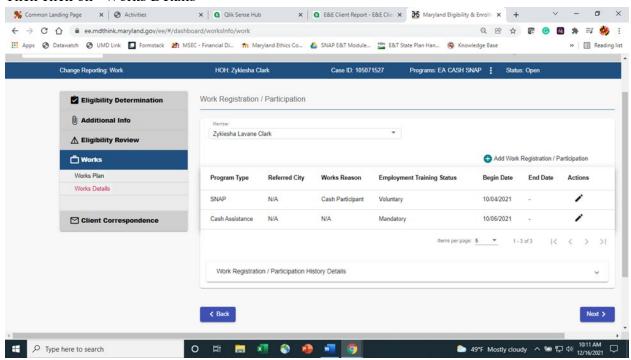
Each LDSS must establish a process for uploading mail-in redeterminations and verifications on the same day that they are received. Failure to do so will result in some redeterminations being marked as missed when in fact the customer completed a timely submission.

If the redetermination is for TCA, the case must be reviewed for work program requirements (*Reference TCA workbook*).

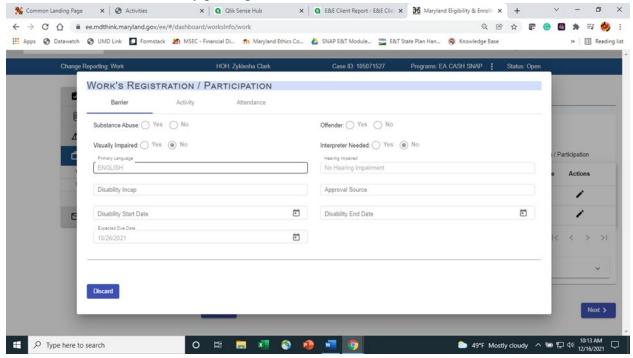
On the left side click "Works"



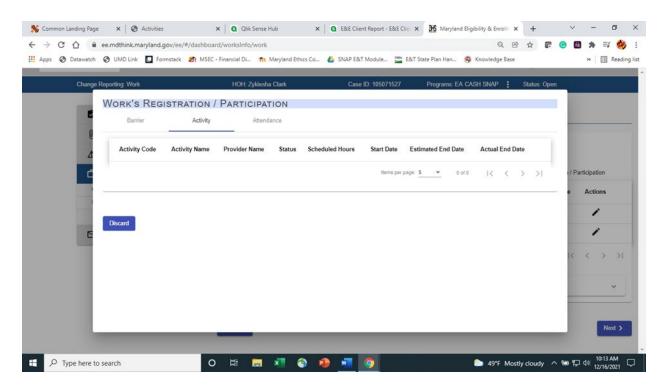
Then click on "Works Details"



If the customer is a mandatory participant, click on the "Actions" button.



Then click on "Activity" at the top of the page to view the customer's current work activities. This will show what activities are captured in WORKS for the customer.



If there are no activities listed, the activity has ended or is about to end, an assessment and Family Independence Plan (FIP) will need to be completed to determine the appropriate activity for the customer.

Redetermination Work Item Alerts

No redetermination interviews are required for January, February, and March 2022. Please continue to disposition pending work items. Future enhancements to remove previously populated alerts are under review.

E&E will generate work item alerts for telephonic or in-person interviews and receipt of redetermination packets:

1. <u>Scheduled Interview</u>- The Scheduled Interview alert will populate once the interview has been scheduled for redetermination, application and/or interim change. This alert will be automatically disposed once the interview status is updated to complete, missed, or rescheduled.

Pending Work Items			
Туре	Subtype	Assigned To Act	tion
Schedule Interview	Interview scheduled	Œ)

2. <u>Type (Redetermination) Subtype (Redet Packet Received for Worker Processing)</u> - The Redet Packet Received for Worker Processing is generated once the redetermination is received via the Consumer Portal only. This alert will be automatically disposed once the redetermination is confirmed and updated.

Pending Work Items			
Туре	Subtype	Assigned To	Action
Redeterminations	Redet Packe Received for Worker Processing	t	

3. <u>Type (Document Uploaded) Subtype (Document Uploaded in Worker Portal (WP)/Consumer Portal (CP)</u>- The Document Uploaded in WP/CP alert is generated when any document is uploaded. E&E functionality does not currently have a detailed Subtype

based on the document. Therefore, when a paper redetermination is uploaded it will be located under this alert type. This alert will need to be manually disposed once the redetermination is confirmed and updated.

Pending Work Items			
Туре	Subtype	Assigned To	Action
Document Uploaded	Document Uploaded in WP		

Rescheduling Interviews

No redetermination interviews are required for January, February, and March 2022.

The LDSS may reschedule an interview when a customer requests a new date, when an appointment is missed, and the customer is not available or if the customer missed an appointment for failure to return their redetermination packet. If the interview is rescheduled, the case manager will update the Interview Status from "Scheduled" to "Rescheduled" via the Scheduled Appointment Section.

Notice: E&E will generate a new appointment letter to reflect the rescheduled date.

Note: Instructions and screen prints on how to update the interview status to Rescheduled are located in the scheduled appointment feature options section.

The Call Center is listed as the primary contact on the interview scheduling notices for the customer to contact if a redetermination interview needs to be rescheduled. The Call Center will submit a Work Order to the local department to complete. <u>Currently the Call Center cannot reschedule interviews</u>.

Successful completion of the interview

The LDSS must conduct an interview when a completed redetermination packet is received electronically or via paper from the customer before the date of the scheduled interview. If the interview is completed successfully, the case manager will update the Interview Status from "Scheduled" to "Completed" via the Scheduled Appointment Section. The interview status can also be updated to "Completed" even if the interview is done prior to the scheduled due date, by a cold call.

Note: Instructions and screen prints on how to update the interview status to Complete are located in the scheduled appointment feature options section.

Missed Interviews

No redetermination interviews are required for January, February, and March 2022.

Missed Interviews effective after the redetermination flexibilities end (April 2022)

- If the customer <u>submits their redetermination packet</u> but fails to be available for the scheduled interview, the interview <u>will be</u> considered as Missed.
- If the interview is missed, the case manager will update the Interview Status from "Scheduled" to "Missed" via the Scheduled Appointment Section.

Notice: E&E will generate a Notice of Missed Interview (NOMI) at the end of the business day.

Note: Instructions and screen prints on how to update the interview status to Missed are located in the scheduled appointment feature options section.

• If the customer <u>does not turn in their redetermination packet</u> prior to their interview date, that interview <u>is not</u> considered missed. Leave the interview indicator as scheduled. The customer will be mailed a Notice of Adverse Action that will be triggered on or around the 16th.

Redeterminations Closures and Reinstatements

Customer Delay Reasons:

- If the redetermination packet is received but the customer does not return the required verification, E&E will automatically close the case and send the customer a closure notice.
- If the redetermination packet is received but the customer does not complete the interview by the end of the scheduled redetermination month, E&E will automatically close the case and send the customer a closure notice. If the customer contacts the case manager within the redetermination month or 30 days after the redetermination month, the worker must schedule another appointment.

Example: Example: February 2022 redetermination. The redetermination packet was returned timely, and an interview is not required. The customer was sent a 1052 for income, however, did not return verifications by February 28, 2022. A Closure notice will be sent, and the case will automatically close.

If the customer turns in required verification within 30 days after the redetermination month, the case may be reinstated using the date when all verifications were received.

Example: March 2022 redetermination. Packet was returned timely, and no interview was required in March. Customer was sent a 1052 for income, however never returned verifications by March 31, 2022. Verifications are returned April 15, 2022. The case manager can reinstate the program for April 15, 2022 and benefits will be prorated appropriately.

Agency Delay Reasons:

If the worker had all the customer's information but failed to update the redetermination timely, they may also reinstate using the first day of the next month following the redet closure.

Example: The redetermination closed on February 28, 2022, all information received timely but the case manager could not update until March 15, 2022. The case manager should reinstate the case with the date of March 1, 2022, to allow the customer to receive the full month of benefits.

Reminder: No interviews are required for January, February, and March 2022.

Clarification: <u>E&E Reinstate/Reopen Options</u>

- Reinstate option is used for cases that have closed within the past 30 days or cases where benefits were issued in the past 30 days.
 - Example: (Closed within 30 days/benefits issued within 30 days)-Redetermination closed December 31, 2021 due to failure to return verifications. Verifications were received on January 5, 2022.
- Reopen option is used for new applications where the case ID is reused, no benefits were issued within the past 30 days, or a gap in issuance more than 30 days (SNAP and Cash).
 - Example: Customer applied on October 1, 2021, completed the application process and the case was denied appropriately. Customer re-applies on January 5, 2022. The Case Manager would use the previous SNAP case ID and reopen the case.

Reopen option- gap in benefit issuance period			
SNAP	Cash	ABD	LTC
30 days - applications and redets	30 days - applications and redets	45 days - applications 4 months-redets	45 days - applications 4 months-redets

Reference: E&E How to Guide "Reinstate or Reopen a case"

SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT FEATURE OPTIONS

No redetermination interviews are required for January, February, and March 2022.

Rescheduling of an appointment

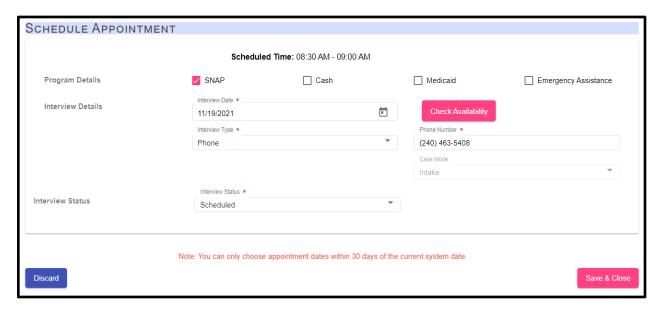
1. On the E&E Worker Portal dashboard, enter the desired Case ID number in the Go to Case (1) search bar, then click the Magnifying Glass (2) icon. The Case Home screen will display.



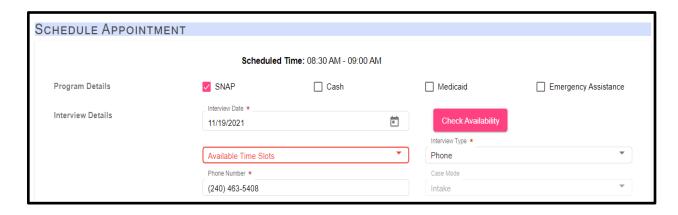
2. From the Case Home (1) screen, click on the Appointment Scheduling (2) icon located on the taskbar.



3. The Schedule Appointment (1) window will display. The requested Program Details checkboxes (2) and current appointment date will display.

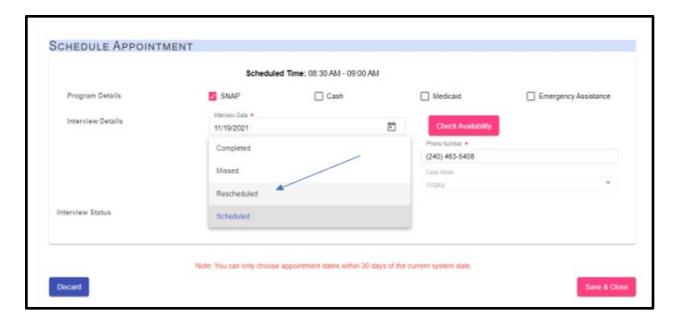


4. To change the appointment date and/or time: In the interview Details section, update the Interview Date to the rescheduled date and then select Check Availability to select the new time. This will generate a new section that lists available slots. Select the new time, if there are no available slots for that day, a new interview date will need to be selected.



Once the date and time have been updated: In the Interview Status section, change it from "Scheduled" to "Rescheduled." Select Save and Close to confirm appointment change time. Then check correspondence to ensure a new appointment notice has been generated.

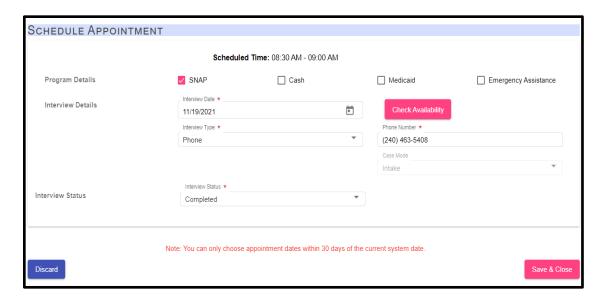
Note: The new rescheduled appointment notice is slated to be effective January 2022.



Updating a scheduled appointment as completed

1. From the E&E Taskbar, select the scheduled appointment calendar icon.



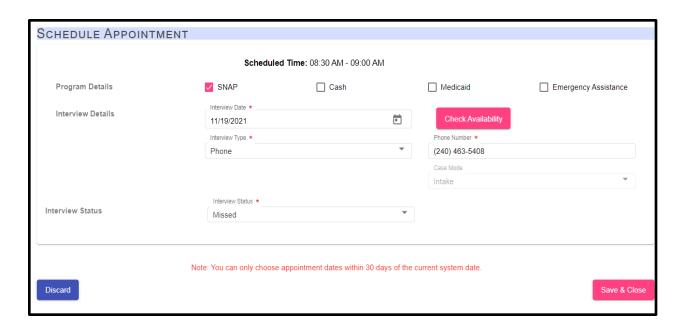


<u>Updating a scheduled appointment as Missed</u>

1. From the E&E Taskbar, select the scheduled appointment calendar icon.



2. Once selected the following selection box will appear. Next to the "Interview Status" indicator, select the drop down option listed as "Missed" and Save and Close.



Future enhancements include the automation of the Interview Status update to default as Missed if the interview status was not updated and generate the NOMI.

Useful Redetermination Quick Links:

How to Guide: Process a Redetermination

How to Guide: Settings; Supervisor LDSS Capacity Settings

How to Guide: Worker Portal Correspondence Review

TCA Workbook

Please report any systemic issues with redeterminations to the E&E contact support team via a JIRA ticket.

INQUIRIES:

Please direct policy questions to FIA Policy by completing the <u>FIA Policy Information Request Form</u> found on Knowledge Base or via email at <u>fia.policy@maryland.gov</u> for Montgomery County only.

For systems questions, please email <u>fia.bsdm@maryland.gov</u>.

c: DHS Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
Constituent Services
DHS Help Desk
Office of Administrative Hearings