## STATE OF MICHIGAN STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

# ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:

,

Reg. No.: 2008-32184

Issue No.: 2005

Case No.:

Load No.:

Hearing Date: July 22, 2009

Wayne County DHS (18)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Jeanne M. VanderHeide

Claimant

### **HEARING DECISION**

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 upon the Claimant's request for hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was conducted from Detroit, Michigan on July 22, 2009. The Claimant appeared and testifed along with his son, who interpreted. ES Worker, appeared on behalf of the Department.

### <u>ISSUE</u>

Whether the Department properly awarded the Claimant Emergency Medical Assistance ("MA") services only based on Claimant being in country less than five years?

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

- 1. Claimant applied for MA benefits and was approved 7/23/08.
- 2. Claimant testifed that he was admitted the country on 1/18/08. (Exhibit 1).

- 3. On 7/23/08, Claimant was given notice that his medicaid coverage would be limited to Emergency Services per PEM 225. (Exhibit 2)
- 4. On September 12, 2008, the Claimant requested a hearing contesting the department's determination regarding MA benefits.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Medical Assistance ("MA") program is established by Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations ('CFR"). The Department of Human Services, formally known as the Family Independence Agency, administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq* and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual ("PAM"), the Program Eligibility Manual ("PEM"), and the Program Reference Manual ("PRM").

The goal of the Medicaid program is to ensure that essential health care services are made available to those who otherwise could not afford them. PEM 105, p. 1. Medicaid is also known as Medical Assistance ("MA"). *Id.* The Medicaid program is comprised of several categories; one category is for FIP recipients while another is for SSI recipients. *Id.* Programs for individuals not receiving FIP or SSI are based on eligibility factors in either the FIP or SSI program thus are categorized as either FIP related or SSI related. *Id.* To receive MA under an SSI related category, the person must be aged (65 or older), blind, disabled, entitled to Medicare or formally blind or disabled. *Id.* Families with dependent children, caretaker relatives of dependent children, persons under age 21 and pregnant, or recently pregnant women, receive MA under FIP related categories. *Id.* 

Citizenship/alien status is not an eligibility factor for emergency MA services only. However, the person must meet all other eligibility factors including residency. (See PEM 220).

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To be eligible for full MA coverage a person must be a U.S. citizen or an alien admitted to the

U.S. under a specific immigration status. PEM 225, p. 2. U.S. citizenship must be verified with

an acceptable document to receive Medicaid. AMP does not require U.S. citizenship

verification. The alien status of each noncitizen must be verified to be eligible for full MA

coverage. For MA and AMP, the alien is limited to emergency services for the first five years in

the United States. PEM 225, p. 6.

In the present case, Claimant was admitted the country and issued a permanent resident

card on 1/18/08. Unfortunately, under PEM 225, Claimant is not eligible for full Medicaid

benefits until he has been in the country for five (5) years.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

**DECISION AND ORDER** 

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of

law, finds the Department acted in accordance with department policy when it awarded Claimant

emergency MA benefits only on 7/23/08.

Accordingly, the Department's determination is AFFIRMED.

Jeanne M. VanderHeide

Administrative Law Judge for Ismael Ahmed, Director

Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 08/20/09

Date Mailed: \_\_08/25/09\_

NOTICE: Administrative Hearings may order a rehearing or reconsideration on either its own motion or at the request of a party within 30 days of the mailing date of this Decision and Order. Administrative Hearings will not order a rehearing or reconsideration on the Department's

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motion where the final decision cannot be implemented within 90 days of the filing of the original request.

The Claimant may appeal the Decision and Order to Circuit Court within 30 days of the receipt of the Decision and Order or, if a timely request for rehearing was made, within 30 days of the receipt date of the rehearing decision.

JV/jlg

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