

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Claimant

Reg. No.: 2009-11670

Issue No.: 3002

Case No.: [REDACTED]

Load No.: [REDACTED]

Hearing Date:

March 16, 2009

Kent County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael J. Bennane

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9; MSA 16.409 and MCL 400.37; MSA 16.437 upon the Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice a telephone hearing was held on March 16, 2009. The Claimant personally appeared and testified.

ISSUE

Did the Department correctly calculate the Claimant's Food Assistance (FAP), benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- (1) The claimant is a FAP recipient. The group size is two.
- (2) On December 17, 2008, the Department received information that the claimant was receiving [REDACTED] every two weeks. (Department exhibits 2-9).

- (3) On December 18, 2008, the department ran a FAP budget using the new unemployment information. The budget provided for a monthly FAP benefit of \$14.00. (Department exhibits 15-16).
- (4) On December 18, 2008, the Department sent the Claimant a notice of the amount of her FAP benefit. (Department exhibit 1).
- (3) On January 7, 2009, the Claimant filed a request for a hearing contesting the closing of her FAP.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) (formerly known as the Food Stamp (FS) program) is established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the FAP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and MAC R 400.3001-3015. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

The federal regulations define household income to include unearned benefits as income, 7CFR 273.9(b). Only 80% of earned income is counted in determining FAP benefits, but 100% of unearned income is counted in determining FAP benefits. PEM 550 Under 7 CFR 273.9 as amended \$135.00 is deducted from the gross income of FAP recipients in determining FAP grants. Under CFR 273.9 deductions for excess shelter are also made, PEM 554.

In the instant case, the Claimant questions the amount of her FAP allotment. The Claimant has a net income of [REDACTED] per month. This was obtained by subtracting the

standard deduction of [REDACTED], medical deductible expenses of [REDACTED], and the excess shelter amount of [REDACTED] from the gross income of [REDACTED]

The amount of a monthly FAP allotment is established by regulations at 7 CFR 273.10. A household of two persons with a net monthly income of [REDACTED] is above the maximum allowable income of [REDACTED]. (RFT 260, p. 11)

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, AFFRIMS the Department's actions finding that the department correctly denied the claimant's FAP.

/s/  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael J. Bennane  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Ismael Ahmed, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 04/10/09

Date Mailed: 04/13/09

**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 motion where the final decision cannot be implemented within 60 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.

MJB/jlg

cc:

[REDACTED]