

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:



Claimant

Reg. No.: 2009-11990  
Issue No.: 1038  
Case No.:   
Load No.:   
Hearing Date:  
February 26, 2009  
Macomb County DHS (12)

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 February 26, 2009. The Claimant personally appeared and testified.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny the Claimant's Family Independence Program (FIP)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. On October 15, 2008, the Claimant applied for Family Assistance (FIP).
2. On October 17, 2008, the Department sent the Claimant a Jobs Education and Training (JET) appointment notice for November 10, 2008. (Department exhibit 2). The claimant did not attend.

3. On November 10, 2008, the Department sent the Claimant an eligibility notice and denied her FIP application. (Department exhibit 3).
4. On December 22, 2008, the Claimant filed a request for a hearing.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-193, 8 USC 601, et seq. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the FIP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and MAC R 400.3101-3131. The FIP program replaced the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program effective October 1, 1996. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

#### **NONCOMPLIANCE WITH EMPLOYMENT AND/OR SELF-SUFFICIENCY-RELATED ACTIVITIES**

As a condition of eligibility, all WEIs and non-WEIs must work or engage in employment and/or self-sufficiency-related activities. **Noncompliance** of applicants, recipients, or member adds means doing **any** of the following **without** good cause:

Do not apply the three or 12 month penalty to ineligible caretakers, clients deferred for lack of child care (DC) and disqualified aliens. Failure to complete a FAST or FSSP results in closure due to failure to provide requested verification. Clients can reapply at any time.

Failing or refusing to:

Appear and participate with the Jobs, Education and Training (JET) Program or other employment service provider.

Complete a Family Automated Screening Tool (FAST), as assigned as the first step in the FSSP process.

FIS should clear the FAST Fall Out Report and any FAST confirmation information the client has obtained before considering a client noncompliant for FAST noncompletion.

Develop a Family Self-Sufficiency Plan (FSSP) or a Personal Responsibility Plan and Family Contract (PRPFC).

FIS must have scheduled a FSSP completion appointment with the client and the client failed to attend before considering a client noncompliant for FSSP noncompletion.

Comply with activities assigned on the Family Self Sufficiency Plan (FSSP).

Provide legitimate documentation of work participation.

Appear for a scheduled appointment or meeting related to assigned activities.

Participate in employment and/or self-sufficiency-related activities.

Accept a job referral.

Complete a job application.

Appear for a job interview (see the exception below).

Stating orally or in writing a definite intent not to comply with program requirements.

Threatening, physically abusing or otherwise behaving disruptively toward anyone conducting or participating in an employment and/ or self-sufficiency-related activity.

Refusing employment support services if the refusal prevents participation in an employment and/or self-sufficiency-related activity. (PEM233A, pp. 1-2)

In the instant case, the Claimant did not attend JET on November 10, 2008, the date that was noticed. She had told the Department of problems receiving mail. I cannot find that claimant did not receive notice of the JET appointment.

The Claimant also cares for the newborn child of her minor daughter, who is attending school, but policy only allows for the parents of such a child to be exempt from JET.

### **Care of a Child or Post-Partum Recovery**

Disregard one parent of a child under the age of three months up to three months when the newborn is in the home. Disregard a mother for post-partum recovery up to three months after giving birth when the newborn is NOT in the home (e.g., removed by P.S., adoption). Use employment code "CA". (233a, p.8)

Therefore, I find that claimant did not have good cause for failure to attend JET and that she was in noncompliance with work related activities. I find the Department was correct in denying the Claimant's FIP for failure to comply with work related activities.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, AFFIRMS the Department's actions in the instant case.

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

Date Signed: 03/26/09

Date Mailed: 03/26/09

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 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.

MJB/jlg

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