

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: 2009-35578
Issue No: 3014
Case No: [REDACTED]
Load No: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date:
October 13, 2009
Eaton County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Gary F. Heisler

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9; and MCL 400.37 upon claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a hearing was held on October 13, 2009. Claimant appeared and testified.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Human Services properly deny Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) application?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- (1) On May 22, 2009, Claimant submitted an application for Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits. At that time Claimant was 20 years old, a full time student at [REDACTED], and was at home with her parents for the summer.
- (3) On May 22, 2009, Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) application was denied.

- (4) On August 12, 2009, Claimant submitted a request for hearing.

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 (DHS or department) 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).

Department policy provides the following guidance for caseworkers. The Department's policies are available on the internet through the Department's website.

BEM 245 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND STUDENT

STATUS

DEPARTMENT POLICY

FAP Only

A person enrolled in a post-secondary education program may be in student status, as defined in this item. A person in student status must meet certain criteria in order to be eligible for assistance.

STUDENT STATUS

FAP Only

A person is in student status if he is:

- Age 18 through 49: and
- Enrolled half-time or more in a:
 - Vocational, trade, business, or technical school that normally requires a high school diploma or an equivalency certificate.
 - Regular curriculum at a college or university that offers degree programs **regardless** of whether a diploma is required.

In order to be eligible, a person in student status must be:

- Receiving FIP.

- Enrolled in an institution of higher education as a result of participation in:
 - Approved employment -related activities (See BEM 230B).
 - A JTPA program.
 - A program under section 236 of the Trade Readjustment Act of 1974 (U. S. C. 2296).
 - Another State or local government employment and training program.
- Physically or mentally unfit for employment.
- Employed for at least 20 hours per week and paid for such employment.
- Self-employed for at least 20 hours per week and earning weekly income at least equivalent to the federal minimum wage multiplied by 20 hours.
- Participating in an on-the-job training program. A person is considered to be participating in an on-the-job training program only during the period of time the person is being trained by the employer.
- Participating in a state or federally-funded work study program (funded in full or in part under Title IV-C of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended) during the regular school year.
- Providing more than half of the physical care of a group member under the age of six.
- Providing more than half of the physical care of a group member age six through eleven and the local office has determined adequate child care is not available to:
 - Enable the person to attend class and work at least 20 hours per week.
 - Participate in a state or federally-financed work study program during the regular school year.
- A single parent enrolled full-time in an institution of higher education who cares for a dependent under age 12. This includes a person who does not live with his or her spouse, who has parental control over a child who does **not** live with his or her natural, adoptive or stepparent.

At the time of the application, Claimant was in student status but did not meet any of the specific eligibility criteria listed above. Claimant was not eligible for a Food Assistance Program (FAP) case of her own. If Claimant's parents had applied and included her in the benefit group, the outcome may have been different.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides the Department of Human Services properly denied Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) application.

It is ORDERED that the actions of the Department of Human Services, in this matter, are UPHELD.

/s/


Gary F. Heisler
Administrative Law Judge
for Ismael Ahmed, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: October 28, 2009

Date Mailed: October 30, 2009

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.

GFH 

cc:

