

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No: 200936687

Issue No: 2009/4031

Hearing Date:

October 21, 2009

St Clair County DHS

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Marlene B. Magyar

**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 telephone hearing was held on October 21, 2009. Claimant and his significant other personally appeared and testified.

**ISSUE**

Did the department properly determine claimant is not disabled by Medicaid (MA) and State Disability Assistance (SDA) eligibility standards?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. Claimant is a 55-year-old male who applied for disability-based MA/SDA on June 3, 2009.
2. When the department denied that application claimant requested a hearing.
3. Claimant's hearing was held on October 21, 2009, at which time, he also had a Social Security Administration (SSA) disability appeal pending.

4. Claimant alleged impairments on his disputed MA/SDA application identical to those the SSA was reviewing.
5. While claimant's MA/SDA appeal was pending, the SSA issued a fully favorable disability allowance to claimant on September 13, 2010, with his disability onset established as of May 15, 2000, per a computerized cross-check (SOLQ) received by the presiding Administrative Law Judge on September 14, 2010.

### **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 (DHS or department) 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 State Disability Assistance (SDA) program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and MAC R 400.3151-400.3180. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

In Michigan, the SSA's determination of disability onset is binding for MA eligibility purposes. The same standard is applied in SDA cases. In the present case, evidence of the favorable SSA decision conclusively establishes claimant meets the federal disability standard necessary to qualify for MA/SDA, pursuant to BEM Items 150 and 260.

Claimant's SSA disability allowance establishes he was determined disabled as of May 2000. Consequently, the department must reverse its erroneous denial of claimant's disputed application and effectuate coverage in accordance with the department's rules.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides the department erred in determining claimant is not disabled.

Accordingly, the department's decision is REVERSED, and it is Ordered that:

1. The department shall approve claimant's June 3, 2009 MA/SDA application pursuant to the SSA's disability allowance, as long as he is otherwise eligible to receive said benefits.

2. Departmental review of claimant's condition is not necessary as long as SSA disability status continues.

/S/

Marlene B. Magyar  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Ismael Ahmed, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: September 16, 2010

Date Mailed: September 17, 2010

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.

MBM/db

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