

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: 2009-10488

Issue No: 6046

Case No: [REDACTED]

Load No: [REDACTED]

Hearing Date:

May 7, 2009

Calhoun County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Landis Y. Lain

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, an in-person hearing was held on May 7, 2009. Claimant personally appeared and testified.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Human Services (the department) properly deny claimant's request for help with paying her car insurance?

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 October 21, 2008, claimant applied for help with paying her car insurance.
- (2) On October 29, 2008, the department caseworker sent claimant notice that her application was denied.

(3) On November 24, 2008, claimant filed a request for a hearing to contest the department's negative action.

(4) The department paid six months of car insurance on January 4, 2008.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Department of Human Services assists families to achieve self-sufficiency. The primary avenue to self-sufficiency is employment. DHS and the Michigan Works! Agencies (MWAs) provide Direct Support Services (DSS) to help families become self-sufficient.

Direct Support Services are goods and services provided to help families achieve self-sufficiency. DSS includes Employment Support Services (ESS) and Family Support Services (FSS). There is no entitlement for DSS. The decision to authorize DSS is within the discretion of DHS or MWA. (PEM, Item 232, p. 1)

Program policy dictates that the caseworker may authorize ESS directly needed to obtain, maintain, or enhance a person's employment when funds are not available from other sources. One time work-related expenses such as auto insurance may be made. In the instance case, the department caseworker paid claimant's auto insurance on January 4, 2008. Therefore, the department did pay one-time work-related expenses for claimant in the form of auto insurance. Claimant was not eligible to receive subsequent payments for her automobile insurance. Therefore, the department correctly denied claimant's application for payment of auto insurance.

#### DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the department has established by the necessary, competent, material and substantial evidence on the record that it was acting in compliance with department policy when it denied claimant's application for automobile insurance based upon its determination that the

department has already provided claimant with six months of automobile insurance payment as a one-time work-related expense on January 4, 2008.

Accordingly, the department's decision is AFFIRMED.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Landis Y. Lain  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Ismael Ahmed, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: May 28, 2009

Date Mailed: May 29, 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 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 mailing 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.

LYL/vmc

cc: 