

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.: 2009-12661

Issue No.: 1038

Case No.: [REDACTED]

Load No.: [REDACTED]

Hearing Date:

March 26, 2009

Wayne County DHS (35)

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 26, 2009. The Claimant personally appeared and testified.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly attempt to close 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. The Claimant was a FIP recipient.
2. On December 12, 2008, the Department sent the Claimant a Jobs Education and Training (JET) appointment notice for December 9, 2008. (Department exhibit 2).

3. On December 29, 2008, the Claimant provided the department with a doctor's note requesting further deferral from JET. (Department exhibit 3).
4. On January 26, 2009, the Department sent the Claimant a Jobs Education and Training (JET) appointment notice for February 9, 2009. (Department exhibit 5).
5. On January 30, 2009, 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).

In the instant case, the Claimant was attempting to get a further deferral from JET.

Short-Term Incapacity

Defer persons with a mental or physical illness, limitation, or incapacity which is expected to last less than three months and which prevents participation. Defer for up to three months.

Verify the short-term incapacity and the length of the incapacity using a DHS-54A, Medical Needs form or other written statement from an MD/ DO. Set the medical review date in CIMS accordingly, but not to exceed three months. (PEM 230A, p.11)

The claimant's stated need was due to an inability, on the part of her newborn child to take food from a bottle.

I find the short-term incapacity, as stated by her physician in the evidence offered, as good cause for nonparticipation.

Since this hearing took place past the time her physician requested that she be excused from JET the department may now re-refer the Claimant to JET

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, REVERSES AND ORDERS the Department to maintain the claimant's FIP in its present open status. The department may refer the claimant to JET following the period of time that her physician requested she be excused.

/s/

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

Date Signed: 04/20/09

Date Mailed: 04/21/09

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

2009-12661/MJB

cc:

