

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.: 2009-18268
Issue No.: 3002
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Load No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date:
June 23, 2009
Macomb County DHS (36)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael Bennane

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge upon pursuant to MCL 400.9; MCL 400.37 upon claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice a telephone hearing was held on June 24, 2009 and claimant was not represented. Claimant's father [REDACTED] appeared as a witness.

ISSUE

Is claimant receiving the correct monthly Food Assistance Program (FAP) allotment?

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 FAP recipient in a household of one person.
2. Claimant receives \$1049 in gross income per month which consists of RSDI income.
3. A Shelter Verification form, signed on March 6, 2008 by Claimant's father as landlord, indicated an obligation of \$600 for shelter, utilities and heat.

4. The department determined that claimant is entitled to \$14.00 in FAP benefits per month
5. Claimant requested a hearing contesting the amount of the FAP grant.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Food Assistance Program, 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”), formally known as the Family Independence Agency, administers the FAP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq* and MAC R 400.3001-3015. Departmental policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (“PAM”), the Program Eligibility Manual (“PEM”), and the Program Reference Manual (“PRM”).

The federal regulations define household income to include RSDI benefit income. 7 CFR 273.9(b). Under 7 CFR 273.9, as amended, \$135 is deducted from the gross income of FAP recipients in determining FAP grants. Under 7 CFR 273.9 deductions for excess shelter and medical expenses are also made. PEM 554.

In the present case, according to the aforementioned policy on budgeting, claimant has a net monthly income of \$679. This was obtained by subtracting the standard deduction of \$135 the excess shelter amount of \$174 and the excess medical amount of \$61 from the gross income of \$1049. The amount of a monthly food assistance allotment is established by regulations a 7 CFR 273.10. A household of one person with a net monthly income of \$679 is entitled to a monthly FAP grant of \$14 per month. RFT 260.

Claimant and her father were encouraged to submit an updated Shelter Verification form to the Department with supporting documentation of any differing monthly obligations for shelter, utilities and heat.

