

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: 2009-20460  
Issue No: 2026  
Case No: [REDACTED]  
Load No: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date:  
November 10, 2009  
Kalamazoo 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 November 10, 2009. Claimant appeared and testified.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Human Services properly determine Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) eligibility?

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 was an ongoing recipient of Medical Assistance (MA) benefits.
- (2) On February 26, 2009, Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) eligibility was re-determined. The result was that Claimant was placed on a deductible Medical Assistance (MA) case. Claimant was sent notice of the change.

(3) On March 9, 2009, Claimant submitted a request for hearing.

### 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).

At the hearing Claimant's medical benefits were examined and explained. Claimant stated now she understands what changed and does not think the Department of Human Services did anything wrong. [The goal of the Medicaid program is to ensure that essential health care services are made available to those who otherwise could not afford them.](#) Medicaid is also known as Medical Assistance (MA).

The State of Michigan has set guidelines for income, which determine if an MA group is eligible. Income eligibility exists for the calendar month tested when:

- . There is no excess income, **or**
- . Allowable medical expenses equal or exceed the excess income (under the Deductible Guidelines).

Net income (countable income minus allowable income deductions) must be at or below a certain income limit for eligibility to exist. Income eligibility exists when net income does **not** exceed the Group 2 needs. The protected income level is a set allowance for non-medical need items such as shelter, food and incidental expenses. PRT 240 lists the Group 2 MA protected income levels based on shelter area and fiscal group size. An eligible Medical Assistance group (Group 2 MA) has income the same as or less than the "protected income level" as set forth in

the policy contained in the Program Reference Table (PRT). An individual or MA group whose income is in excess of the monthly protected income level is ineligible to receive MA. However, a MA group may become eligible for assistance under the deductible program. The deductible program is a process, which allows a client with excess income to be eligible for MA, if sufficient allowable medical expenses are incurred. Each calendar month is a separate deductible period. The fiscal group's monthly excess income is called the deductible amount. Meeting a deductible means reporting and verifying allowable medical expenses that equal or exceed the deductible amount for the calendar month. The MA group must report expenses by the last day of the third month following the month it wants medical coverage.

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 determined Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) eligibility.

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: January 11, 2010

Date Mailed: January 19, 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 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.

GFH 

cc:

