

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: 2009-22040  
Issue No: 2026  
Case No: [REDACTED]  
Load No: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date:  
November 18, 2009  
Macomb County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: William A. Sundquist

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 November 18, 2009.

ISSUE

Are exceptions to DHS policy requirements allowed by ALJs?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- (1) Negative case action: Medicaid termination/change to a deductible on February 3, 2009 based on excess income per PEM 121-171, 530-545, and PRT 240.
- (2) Claimant agreed that the excess income termination was correct at the time in accordance with DHS policy on February 3, 2009; she wants an exception to the policy based on her financial hardship at the time.

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).

Facts above are undisputed.

Administrative law judges have no authority to make decisions on constitutional grounds, overrule statutes, overrule promulgated regulations or overrule or make exceptions to the department policy set out in the program manuals. Delegation of Hearing Authority, August 9, 2002, per PA 1939, Section 9, Act 280.

Therefore, as a matter of law, this ALJ has no legal authority to grant the claimant's requested exception to DHS policy and requirements based on her financial hardship.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides exceptions to DHS policy requirements are not allowed by ALJs.

Accordingly, Medicaid termination/changed to a deductible is UPHELD, and hearing request is DISMISSED.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Sundquist  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Ismael Ahmed, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: January 4, 2010

Date Mailed: January 4, 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.

WAS/tg

cc:

