

**STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2010-32931  
Issue No.: 2009/4031  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: September 7, 2010  
Oakland County DHS (02)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Colleen M. Mamelka

**HEARING DECISION**

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 upon the claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a hearing was held in Madison Heights, Michigan on Tuesday, September 7, 2010. The Claimant appeared and testified. [REDACTED] appeared on behalf of the Department.

During the hearing, the Claimant waived the time period for the issuance of this decision in order to allow for the submission of additional medical evidence. Subsequent to the hearing, the Social Security Administration ("SSA") approved the Claimant for SSI benefits with the disability onset date of February 2009. This matter is now before the undersigned.

**ISSUE**

Whether the Department properly determined that the Claimant was not disabled for purposes of the MA-P and SDA benefit programs?

**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 submitted an application for public assistance seeking MA-P and SDA benefits on March 18, 2009.
2. On April 6, 2010, the Medical Review Team ("MRT") found the Claimant not disabled. (Exhibit 1, pp. 3, 4)
3. On April 9, 2010, the Department notified the Claimant of the MRT determination. (Exhibit 1, p. 1)

4. On April 20, 2010, the Department received the Claimant's timely written request for hearing.
5. On May 10, 2010, the State Hearing Review Team ("SHRT") found the Claimant not disabled. (Exhibit 3)
6. Subsequently, the SSA approved the Claimant for SSI benefits with a disability onset date of February 19, 2009.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Medical Assistance ("MA") program is established by Subchapter XIX of Chapter 7 of The Public Health & Welfare Act, 42 USC 1397, and is administered by the Department of Human Services ("DHS"), formerly known as the Family Independence Agency, pursuant to MCL 400.10 *et seq* and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual ("BAM"), the Bridges Eligibility Manual ("BEM"), and the Bridges Reference Manual ("BRM").

A previously denied MA application is treated as a pending application when MRT determined the Claimant was not disabled and subsequently, the SSA determines that the Claimant is entitled to SSI based on his disability/blindness for some, or all, of the time covered by the denied MA application. BEM 260 All eligibility factors must be met for each month MA is authorized. BEM 260

In this case, the SSA approved the Claimant for SSI benefits with the disability onset date of February 19, 2009. The Claimant is in current pay status effective October 2010. Ultimately, because of the favorable Social Security Administration determination, it is not necessary for the Administrative Law Judge to discuss the issue of disability pursuant to BEM 260.

The State Disability Assistance program, which provides financial assistance for disabled persons, was established by 2004 PA 344. DHS administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10 *et seq.* and Michigan Administrative Code ("MAC R") 400.3151 – 400.3180. Department policies are found in BAM, BEM, and BRM. A person is considered disabled for SDA purposes if the person has a physical or mental impairment which meets federal SSI disability standards for at least ninety days. Receipt of SSI or RSDI benefits based on disability or blindness, or the receipt of MA benefits based on disability or blindness automatically qualifies an individual as disabled for purposes of the SDA program.

In this case, the Claimant is found disabled for purposes of the MA-P program therefore the Claimant is found disabled for purposes of SDA benefit program.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the Claimant meets the definition of medically disabled under the MA-P and SDA benefit programs.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED:

1. The Department shall open (if not previously done so) an ongoing Medical Assistance case for the Claimant based on the March 18, 2009 application.
2. The Department shall supplement for any lost benefits (if any) that the Claimant was entitled to receive if otherwise eligible qualified.

*Colleen M. Mamelka*

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Colleen M. Mamelka  
Administrative Law Judge  
For Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 1/31/2011

Date Mailed: 1/31/2011

**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.

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