

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 201033178
Issue No.: 2026
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Load No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: September 23, 2010
Wayne County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Aaron McClintic

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 telephone hearing was held on September 23, 2010. The Claimant appeared and testified. [REDACTED] appeared on behalf of the Department.

ISSUE

Was the Department correct in determining Claimant's Medical Assistance 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 had a Medicaid case with a deductible beginning in August 2009.
- (2) Claimant submitted medical bills in September 2009 but his deductible was not met.
- (3) Claimant did not meet his deductible for any months between August 2009 and February 2010, and his case was closed effective March 1, 2010.
- (4) Claimant was given notice on February 12, 2010 that his MA case would close on March 1, 2010 because he failed to meet his deductible for 3 consecutive months.

- (5) Claimant's MA case closed on March 1, 2010.
- (6) Claimant requested a hearing on February 8, 2010 contesting the closure of MA benefits.

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 (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program 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 Program Reference Manual (PRM).

The Medical Assistance program was designed to assist needy persons with medical expenses. The State of Michigan has set guidelines for income, which determines if a MA group falls within the needy classification. Under BEM Items 544 and 545, an eligible Medical Assistance group (Group II MA) has income the same as or less than the "protected income level" plus medical insurance premiums as set forth in the policy contained in the program reference table. 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. A deductible 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. BEM 545.

In the present case, Claimant asserted that he was not given proper notice regarding how his Medicaid deductible worked. Claimant submitted medical bills in September 2009, and did not meet his deductible. Claimant had some knowledge of the deductible program if he submitted medical bills in September 2009. Claimant presented no evidence that he met his deductible for any of the months in question. This ALJ finds that the Department has acted in accordance with Department policy and law in closing Claimant's Medical assistance case.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law decides that the Department was correct in the closure of Claimant's MA case,

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and it is ORDERED that the Department's decision in this regard be and is hereby AFFIRMED.

/s/



Aaron McClintic
Administrative Law Judge
For Ismael Ahmed, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: September 29, 2010

Date Mailed: September 29, 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.

AM/hw

cc:

