

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.: 201039847
Issue No.: 2026; 3015
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Load No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: July 29, 2010
Macomb 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 July 29, 2010. The Claimant appeared and testified. [REDACTED], ES appeared on behalf of the Department.

ISSUE

Was the Department correct in closing Claimant's Food Assistance Program benefits and determining Medical Assistance benefits?

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 FAP and MA benefits.
- (2) On April 1, 2010 Claimant's FAP closed due to excess income and a deductible of \$1046 was determined for the household.
- (3) Claimant receives \$3112 unearned income from unemployment compensation.
- (4) Claimant requested a hearing on April 12, 2010 contesting the determination of MA benefits and closure of FAP benefits.

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 Bridges Administrative Manual (“BAM”), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (“BEM”), and the Program Reference Manual (“PRM”).

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).

In the present case, Claimant had \$3112 gross income for the month in question. The gross income limit for the FAP program for a five person household is \$2794. RFT 250 Therefore the closure of FAP benefits for excess income is proper and correct. Claimant testified that his unemployment lapsed between January 2010 and April 2010, Unemployment records confirmed this. However, Claimant conceded at hearing that he did not inform the Department of the stopped unemployment until April 12, 2010, after the closure. Changes in income must be reported to the Department and verified before a new budget will be completed. BEM 505.

In the present case, Claimant is contesting the deductible amount for his MA benefits. The Department determined that Claimant had net income of \$1587 which exceeds the monthly protected income level for a 2 person household of \$541 by \$1046 per month. Claimant was consequently ineligible to receive Medical assistance. However under the deductible program, if the Claimant incurs medical expenses in excess of \$1046 during the month he may then be eligible for Medical Assistance. This ALJ finds that the Department has acted in accordance with Department policy and law in denying ongoing Medical assistance and determining his deductible amount.


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 FAP benefits and determination of MA deductible amount, and it is ORDERED that the

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Department's decision is hereby AFFIRMED.

/s/



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

Date Signed: August 3, 2010

Date Mailed: August 3, 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.

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