

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.: 2010-45907  
Issue No.: 1003  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Load No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: November 3, 2010  
Oakland County DHS (2)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Michael J. Bennane

**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 November 3, 2010. The claimant appeared and testified.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny the claimant's Family Independence Program (FIP)?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. On December 4, 2009, the claimant applied for FIP benefits.
2. The Department had received notice of non-cooperation with the Office of Child Support on May 24, 2004.
3. On January 12, 2010, the department denied the claimant's FIP application.
4. On January 8, 2010, the claimant filed a request for a hearing.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-193, 8 USC 601, *et seq.* The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family

Independence Agency) administers the FIP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MAC R400.3101-3131. The FIP program replaced the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program effective October 1, 1996. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Bridges Reference Manual (BRM).

**FIP, CDC Income Eligible, MA and FAP**

Clients must comply with all requests for action or information needed to establish paternity and/or obtain child support on behalf of children for whom they receive assistance, unless a claim of good cause for not cooperating has been granted or is pending. (PEM 255, p. 1).

The department had information that the Claimant had failed to cooperate with the office of child support. The department determined that the claimant did not cooperate by failing to identify the father of her child

**MA Member Disqualification**

**MA**

Failure to cooperate without good cause results in a disqualification. The person who failed to cooperate is **not** eligible for MA when:

The child for whom support/paternity action is required receives MA, **and**

**The person and child live together...**

**FAP Member Disqualification**

**FAP**

Failure to cooperate without good cause results in disqualification of the person who failed to cooperate. Remove the person and his needs from the Food Assistance case for a minimum of one month. (PEM 255, p.11).

At the hearing, the claimant testified that she had a good cause reason for her noncooperation but was unable to produce documentation of that good cause. This Administrative Law Judge finds the department was correct in denying her FIP application.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the Department was correct in denying the claimant's FIP, and AFFIRMS the Department's actions.



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Michael J. Bennane  
Administrative Law Judge  
For Ismael Ahmed, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 11/29/2010

Date Mailed: 11/29/2010

**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.

MJB/jlg

cc:

