

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.: 2010-56040
Issue No.: 1038
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Load No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: October 18, 2010
Oakland County DHS (4)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Lynn M. Ferris

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 October 18, 2010. The claimant appeared and testified. [REDACTED], Jet Case worker appeared on behalf of the Department.

ISSUE

Whether the Department properly denied the Claimant's Family Independence Program application for cash assistance for failure to attend the Work First Program?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. The Claimant filed an application for FIP Cash Assistance on July 23, 2010. At the application interview, the Claimant said she wanted to attend the WorkFirst Program.
2. The Claimant attended the WorkFirst program but was 4 minutes late and was told she could not attend the program without approval from her worker.
3. The Claimant, since the closure of her case, has reapplied for FIP cash assistance and a case has been opened.
4. The Department agreed to issue a supplement to the claimant for FIP benefits retroactive to the date of the initial application and provide FIP assistance to the Claimant beginning August 16, 2010.

5. The claimant requested a hearing on September 15, 2010 which was received by the department on September 21, 2010.
6. As a result of this agreement by the department the claimant indicated that she no longer wished to proceed with the 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).

Under Bridges Administrative Manual Item 600, clients have the right to contest any agency decision affecting eligibility or benefit levels whenever they believe the decision is illegal. The agency provides an Administrative Hearing to review the decision and determine if it is appropriate. Agency policy includes procedures to meet the minimal requirements for a fair hearing. Efforts to clarify and resolve the client's concerns start when the agency receives a hearing request and continues through the day of the hearing.

In this case the Department agreed to supplement the Claimant's FIP cash assistance benefits retroactive to August 16, 2010 for FIP benefits she was otherwise entitled to receive. As a result of this agreement, Claimant indicated she no longer wished to proceed with the hearing. Since the Claimant and the Department have come to an agreement it is unnecessary for this Administrative Law Judge to make a decision regarding the facts and issues in this case.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the Department and Claimant have come to a settlement regarding claimant's request for a hearing.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED:

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The Department shall retroactively supplement the Claimant's FIP benefits beginning August 16, 2010 for FIP benefits she was otherwise entitled to receive.



Lynn M. Ferris
Administrative Law Judge
For Ismael Ahmed, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 10/19/2010

Date Mailed: 10/19/2010

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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