

STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF: [REDACTED],
Claimant

Reg. No.: 2010-17120
Issue No.: 2009
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Load No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date:
April 12, 2010
Oakland County DHS (04)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Jonathan W. Owens

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 upon Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a hearing was held on April 12, 2010. Claimant did appear and testified.

ISSUE

Whether the Department of Human Services (Department) properly determined that Claimant is not "disabled" for purposes of the Medical Assistance (MA) program?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. On August 26, 2009, Claimant applied for MA-P.
2. On October 12, 2009, the Department denied Claimant's application.
3. On November 4, 2009, Claimant filed a request for hearing regarding the Department's denial of benefits.

4. Claimant is 21 years old.
5. Claimant has a high school education.
6. Claimant is and has been attending college full time. Claimant currently attends classes 3 days a week for up to 5 hours a day.
7. Claimant is currently employed at an oil change facility. Claimant is working 20-30 hours a week earning \$8 an hour.
8. Claimant suffers from Crohns.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Medical Assistance (MA-P) 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 administers the MA-P program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

In order to receive MA benefits based upon disability or blindness, a claimant must be disabled or blind as defined in Title XVI of the Social Security Act (20 CFR 416.901). The Department, being authorized to make such disability determinations, utilizes the SSI definition of disability when making medical decisions on MA applications. MA-P (disability) also known as Medicaid, is a program designated to help public assistance claimants pay their medical expenses.

The law defines disability as the inability to do substantial gainful activity (SGA) by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months. 20 CFR 416.905.

Because disability must be determined on the basis of medical evidence, Federal regulations have delineated a set order entailing a sequential step process for evaluating physical or mental impairments. When a claimant is found either disabled or not disabled at any point in the process, the claimant is not considered further.

Addressing the following steps:

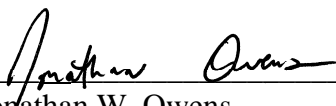
The first sequential step to be considered is whether the claimant can perform Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) defined in 20 CFR 416.920(b). In this case, Claimant is working up to 30 hours a week earning \$8 an hour. Claimant is also attending college full-time, 3 days a week up to 5 hours each day. Claimant stated he was not disabled during the hearing and he would be capable of working a sedentary position for additional hours beyond the 30 hours he is currently working.

It is the finding of the undersigned, based upon the evidence presented, that Claimant is not “disabled” at the first step. Claimant is capable of SGA.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that Claimant is not “disabled” for purposes of the Medical Assistance program.

It is ORDERED; the Department’s determination in this matter is AFFIRMED



Jonathan W. Owens
Administrative Law Judge
for Ismael Ahmed, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: May 6, 2010

Date Mailed: May 6, 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.

JWO/pf

cc:

