

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: 2010-17647  
Issue No: 2009, 4031  
Case No: [REDACTED]  
Load No: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date:  
March 23, 2010  
Muskegon County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Ivona Rairigh

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 telephone hearing was held on March 23, 2010. Claimant personally appeared and testified. Also appearing and testifying on claimant's behalf was [REDACTED]

[REDACTED].

ISSUE

Did the department properly deny claimant's December 14, 2009 Medicaid (MA) and State Disability Assistance (SDA) application, finding she lacks a legally disabling condition?

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 applied for MA and SDA on December 14, 2009.

2. On January 21, 2010 department's Medical Review Team determined that the claimant was not disabled for MA and SDA eligibility purposes.

3. On January 26, 2010 department sent the claimant an Application Eligibility Notice denying her MA and SDA application.

4. Claimant requested a hearing on February 4, 2010.

5. On February 23, 2010 department's State Hearing Review Team (SHRT) also determined that the claimant was not disabled.

6. Claimant presented additional medical information following the hearing. This information was forwarded to SHRT for additional review. On April 29, 2010 SHRT once again determined that the claimant was not disabled.

7. On July 2, 2010 department advised that the claimant has been approved for Social Security disability benefits effective January 1, 2010, based on her January, 2010 application for such benefits. SOLQ report obtained through computer matching with Social Security Administration shows that the claimant's disability onset date is December 15, 1997.

#### 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 (DHS or department) 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 (RFT).

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MAC R

400.3151-400.3180. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Program Reference Manual (RFT).

In Michigan, the SSA's determination of disability onset is established for MA and SDA eligibility purposes. In the present case, evidence of the favorable SSA decision established that the claimant met the federal disability standard necessary to qualify for MA and SDA pursuant to BEM 260 and 261.

The SSA determined claimant has been disabled since December 15, 1997. Consequently, the department must reverse its MA and SDA denial, and process claimant's disputed application in accordance with department policy.

#### DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that the department erred in determining claimant is not disabled.

Accordingly, department's action is REVERSED. Department shall:

1. Process claimant's disputed MA and SDA application and issue her any benefits she was entitled to but did not receive, based on December 14, 2009 application date.
2. Consider any retroactive SSA benefits claimant may have received for the same period of time of the SDA application, to avoid duplicative issuance of benefits, as the claimant would not be eligible for SDA benefits during the period of time covered by SSA benefits.
3. Notify the claimant of this determination in writing.
4. Review claimant's ongoing MA eligibility/medical condition only if the claimant's SSI benefits are terminated in the future.

SO ORDERED.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Ivona Rairigh  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Ismael Ahmed, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: July 14, 2010

Date Mailed: July 14, 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.

IR/tg

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