

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: 2010-35369
Issue No: 4003
Case No: [REDACTED]
Load No: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date:
August 17, 2010
Jackson County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: William A. Sundquist

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 August 17, 2010.

ISSUE

Was good cause for verification noncompliance established?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- (1) Negative case action: SDA application on January 11, 2010, denied on February 9, 2010 based on issue above per BAM 105.
- (2) On January 21, 2010, VCL sent to claimant with a return due-date of February 1, 2010; verifications were submitted timely except for the requested medical verification.

(3) The medical verification was delayed because of the claimant's inability to obtain a timely appointment with his physician.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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 Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

Facts above are undisputed.

The client might be unable to answer a question about himself or another person whose circumstances must be known. Allow the client at least 10 days (or other timeframe specified in policy) to obtain the needed information. PAM, Item 105, p. 5.

Assisting the Client

All Programs

The local office must assist clients who ask for help in completing forms (including the DCH-0733-D) or gathering verifications. Particular sensitivity must be shown to clients who are illiterate, disabled or **not** fluent in English. PAM, Item 105, p. 9.

Good Cause----- A circumstance which is considered a valid reason for noncompliant with a requirement. PRG glossary, pg. 15.

The claimant had the responsibility to notify the DHS promptly that he needed help in complying with the timely medical verification requirements. This he did not do.

Therefore, this ALJ does not find that good cause for verification noncompliance was established by the preponderance of the evidence.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that good cause for verification noncompliance was not established.

Accordingly, SDA denial is UPHELD.

/s/

William A. Sundquist
Administrative Law Judge
for Ismael Ahmed, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: August 23, 2010

Date Mailed: August 24, 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 receipt 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.

WAS/ 

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