

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.: 2011-19537
Issue No.: 2001
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: March 31, 2011
DHS County: Wayne (82-76)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Jan Leventer

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 400.9 and 400.37 and Claimant [REDACTED] request for a hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on March 31, 2011. Claimant appeared and testified. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], appeared and testified on behalf of the Department of Human Services (DHS).

ISSUE

Whether DHS acted in accordance with its policies and procedures when it denied Claimant Medical Assistance/Adult Medical Program (MA or Medicaid/AMP) benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. On October 11, 2010, Claimant applied for MA-AMP benefits with DHS.
2. Claimant worked thirty hours per week and received \$7.40 per hour, giving her a gross weekly pay of \$222.
3. On November 8, 2010, DHS sent Claimant a Notice of Case Action denying AMP benefits to her because she earned more money than the maximum allowable income necessary to qualify for AMP.
4. On February 9, 2011, Claimant filed a Request for a Hearing with DHS.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

MA was established by Title XIX of the U.S. Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations. DHS administers MA pursuant to MCL 400.10 *et seq.* and MCL 400.105. DHS' policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Reference Tables (RFT). These manuals are available online at www.michigan.gov/dhs-manuals.

AMP was established by Title XXI of the Social Security Act, Sec. (1115)(a)(1), and is administered by DHS pursuant to MCL 400.10 *et seq.* DHS' policies are contained in BAM, BEM and RFT. *Id.*

The DHS manuals are the policies and procedures that DHS officially created for its own use. While the manuals are not laws created by the U.S. Congress or the Michigan Legislature, they constitute legal authority which DHS must follow. It is to the manuals that I look now in order to see what policy applies in this case. After setting forth what the applicable manual Items are, I will examine whether they were followed in this case.

In this case, the relevant manual Item to consider is RFT 236, "AMP Income Levels (By Living Arrangement)." This DHS chart shows the maximum income a person can have and be qualified to receive AMP benefits. RFT 236 states that for an individual person who is living independently, the maximum income allowed is \$316 per month. There is no dispute in this case that Claimant's wages are more than \$316 per month. Therefore, DHS was correct in denying AMP benefits to Claimant.

In conclusion, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, I conclude and determine that in this case, DHS is AFFIRMED. DHS need take no further action in this matter.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that DHS is AFFIRMED. DHS need take no further action with regard to this matter.



Jan Leventer
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: April 11, 2011

Date Mailed: April 13, 2011

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.

JL/pf

cc:

