

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2011-20070  
Issue No. 3000/4000  
Case No. [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date:  
April 7, 2011  
Macomb County DHS

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Michael J. Bennane

**HEARING DECISION**

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9; MSA 16.409 and MCL 400.37; MSA 16.437 upon the Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on April 7, 2011. The claimant appeared and testified.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly calculate the claimant's Food Assistance (FAP) and State disability Assistance (SDA)?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. On [REDACTED], the department notified the claimant that his SDA and FAP would be reduced due to an increase in unearned income.
2. On [REDACTED] the claimant filed a request for a hearing protesting the calculation of his SDA and FAP.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) (formerly known as the Food Stamp (FS) program) is established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the FAP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and MAC R 400.3001-3015. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) 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).

Here, the claimant questions the department's calculation of his benefits.

### **Income**

Income means a benefit or payment received by an individual which is measured in money. It includes money an individual owns even if **not** paid directly such as income paid to a representative.

### **Countable Income**

income remaining after applying the policy in the income related items are called **countable**. This is the amount used to determine eligibility and benefit levels. Count all income that is **not** specifically excluded.

### **Earned Income**

Earned income means income received from another person or organization or from self-employment for duties that were performed for remuneration or profit. Some rental income is considered earned; see [BEM 504](#), Income from Rental/Room and Board.

### **Unearned Income**

Unearned income is all income that is not earned.

### **Gross Income**

Gross income is the amount of income before any deductions such as taxes or garnishments. This may be more than the actual amount an individual receives. (BEM 500, p.3).

The law provides that disposition may be made of a contested case by stipulation or agreed settlement. MCL 24. 278(2). In the instant case, the parties reached an accord. The department agreed to recalculate the claimant's FAP and refigure his SER based on the claimant's income.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the department and claimant have come to an agreement and ORDERS the department to accept documentation from the claimant and recalculate the claimant's FAP and SDA.



Michael J. Bennane  
Administrative Law Judge  
For Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: June 2, 2011

Date Mailed: June 2, 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 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.

MJB/hw

cc:

