## STATE OF MICHIGAN

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

## IN THE MATTER OF:


Reg. No.: 2012-6775

Issue No.: 1080
Case No.:
Hearing Date: November 29, 2011
County: Wayne (57)

## ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael J. Bennane

## HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administ rative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 following Claim ant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on November 29, 2011, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant inclu ded Claim ant. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included

## ISSUE

Did the Department properly cl ose Claimant's case for Family Independence Program (FIP) benefits?

## FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. Claimant was an ongoing recipient of FIP benefits.
2. On October 24, 2011, the Department notified Claimant that Claimant's FIP case would close effective November 1, 2011 , because Claimant exc eeded the lifetim e limit on the receipt of FIP assistance.
3. On October 24, 2011, Claimant filed a Req uest fo $r$ Hearing, disputing the Department's action on the basis that the Department
$\boxtimes$ miscalculated the number of months Claimant had received FIP benefits.
improperly determined Claimant's group composition.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and W ork Opportunity Reconc iliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-193, 42 USC 601, et seq. The Department (formerly $k$ nown as the Family Independence Agency) administers FIP pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101 through R 400.3131. FI P replaced the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program effective October 1, 1996. Departm ent policies are contained in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), and the Referenc e Tables Manual (RFT).

FIP is not an entitlement. BEM 234. Time limits are e ssential to establishing the temporary nature of aid as well as communicating the FIP philosophy to support a family's movement to self-sufficiency. BEM 234. BEM 234 restricts the total cumulative months that an individual may receive FIP benefits to a lifeti me limit of 48 months for state-funded FIP cases and 60 months for federally-funded FIP cases.

## DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, finds that the Department
$\boxtimes$ did act properly $\quad \square$ did not act properly when it closed Claimant's FIP case.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is

## AFFIRMED

REVERSED
for the reasons stated above and on the record.


Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services
NOTICE: Michigan Administrative Hearing S ystem (MAHS) may order a rehearing or reconsideration on either its own motion or at the request of a par ty within 30 days of the mailing date of this Dec ision and Order. MAHS will not order a rehearing or reconsideration on the Department's mo tion where the final decis ion cannot be implemented within 90 days of the filing of the original request. ( 60 days for FAP cases)

The Claimant may appeal the Decision and Order to Circuit Court within 30 days of the receipt of the Dec ision and Order or, if a ti mely request for rehea ring was made, within 30 days of the receipt date of the rehearing decision.

Claimant may request a rehearing or reconsideration for the following reasons:

- A rehearing MAY be granted if there is newly discovered evidence that could affect the outcome of the original hearing decision.
- A reconsideration MAY be granted for any of the following reasons:
- misapplication of manual policy or law in the hearing decision,
- typographical errors, mathematical error, or other obvious errors in the hearing decision that effect the substantial rights of the claimant:
- the failure of the ALJ to address other relevant issues in the hearing decision.

Request must be submitted through the local DHS office or directly to MAHS by mail at
Michigan Administrative Hearings
Re consideration/Rehearing Request
P. O. Box 30639

Lansing, Michigan 48909-07322

MJB/cl


