

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2012-12654
Issue No.: 3002
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: December 14, 2011
County: Wayne County

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Susan C. Burke

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 following Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on December 14, 2011, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Assistance Payments Worker.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly calculate Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. Claimant received FAP benefits in the amount of \$221.00.
2. Claimant was disabled and in a household of three.
3. Claimant's household received unearned income in the amount of \$1,471.00.
4. Claimant had monthly housing expenses in the amount of \$420.00.

5. On October 26, 2011, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the amount of benefits.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are contained in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), and the Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

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 (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and 1999 AC, Rule 400.3001 through Rule 400.3015.

Adjusted gross income in a household of three is determined by subtracting the standard amount of \$146.00 (RFT 255). Monthly net income for FAP purposes is then determined by subtracting allowable expenses, such as a shelter deduction, if any. BEM 554.

In the present case, Claimant's household of three received unearned income in the amount of \$1,471.00. A standard deduction of \$146.00 was deducted from this amount to arrive at an adjusted gross income of \$1,325.00. Claimant stated that he had no medical, dependent care, or child support expenses. Claimant's excess shelter deduction of \$311.00 was calculated by adding the housing expense of \$420.00 to the heat and utility standard of \$553.00 (RFT 255) and subtracting fifty percent of the adjusted gross income. Claimant's monthly net income for FAP purposes was therefore \$1,014.00. The food assistance benefit amount for the monthly net income of \$1,014.00 for a group size of three is \$221.00. RFT 260.

Claimant stated that he received more in FAP benefits previously, but it appears that the inclusion of his son's income as well as the change in policy effective October 1, 2011 reducing the allowed heat and utility standard worked together to effect a decrease in Claimant's benefits.

Based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department

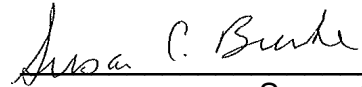
properly calculated Claimant's FAP benefits improperly calculated Claimant's FAP benefits.

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

did act properly. did not act properly.

Accordingly, the Department's FAP calculation decision is AFFIRMED



Susan C. Burke
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 12/21/11

Date Mailed: 12/21/11

NOTICE: Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS) 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. MAHS 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. (60 days for FAP cases)

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.

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
Reconsideration/Rehearing Request
P. O. Box 30639
Lansing, Michigan 48909-07322

SCB/sm

cc:

