

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No: 201235405  
Issue No: 3003  
Case No: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: May, 9, 2012  
Kalamazoo 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 following Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, an in-person hearing was held on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 from Kalamazoo, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Is Federal fuel expense of \$0.55¢ per mile an allowable self-employed expense?

**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 February 9, 2012, the Department of Human Services (DHS) reduced the Claimant's monthly Food Assistance Program (FAP) amount from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]1 per BEM 502.
2. Claimant claimed the DHS erred by not issuing the Federal government mileage rate of [REDACTED] per mile for his self-employed vehicle fuel rate.

**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 1997 AACS R 400.3001-3015.

Self-employment allowable expenses include transportation costs while on the job (e.g., fuel). Allowable expenses which are higher than 25% percent of the total proceeds, or actual expenses if the Client chooses to claim and verify the expenses. BEM 502, P 3.

The evidence of record shows that the Claimant elected actual expense. He argues that the DHS erred by not allowing the Federal [REDACTED] per mile as an allowable expense. It is not provided for in state policy.

Based on the undisputed facts and DHS above, the DHS denial of the Federal based mileage is correct.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that the Federal based mileage is not an allowable self-employed expense.

Accordingly, FAP reduction is **UPHELD**.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Sundquist  
Administrative Law Judge  
For Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: May 21, 2012

Date Mailed: May 21, 2012

**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.

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.

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

WAS/tb

cc:

