

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No: 2012-46278

Issue No: 2009

[REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: [REDACTED]

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 upon claimant's request for a hearing to protest the denial of claimant's application for MA. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on [REDACTED]. Claimant did not appear. Claimant was represented at the hearing by [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Whether claimant meets the disability criteria for Retroactive Medical Assistance (Retro-MA)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. On [REDACTED] claimant filed an application for Medical Assistance and Retroactive Medical Assistance benefits alleging disability.
2. On [REDACTED], claimant received a favorable SSI determination from the Social Security Administration with an application/disability onset date of [REDACTED].
3. On [REDACTED], the department caseworker sent claimant notice that his application was denied because he already receives Supplemental Security Benefits and is not eligible for MRT benefits.
4. On [REDACTED], claimant filed a request for a hearing to contest the department's negative action.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The regulations governing the hearing and appeal process for applicants and recipients of public assistance in Michigan are found in the Michigan Administrative Code, MAC R 400.901-400.951. An opportunity for a hearing shall be granted to an applicant who requests a hearing because his or her claim for assistance has been denied. MAC R 400.903(1). Clients have the right to contest a department decision affecting eligibility or benefit levels whenever it is believed that the decision is incorrect. The department will provide an administrative hearing to review the decision and determine the appropriateness of that decision. (Bridges) Program Administrative Manual (BAM 600).

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

Because of the Social Security Administration determination, it is not necessary for the Administrative Law Judge to discuss the issue of disability for the months of November 2011 forward. PEM (BEM), Item 260. Ongoing MA eligibility begins the first day of the month of SSI entitlement. PEM (BEM), Item 150, page 1.

Some clients also qualify for **retroactive** (retro) MA coverage for up to three calendar months prior to SSI entitlement; see [BAM 115](#). Retro MA coverage is available back to the first day of the third calendar month prior to: For SSI, entitlement to SSI. PAM (BAM), Item 115, page 9.

The department is required to initiate a determination of claimant's eligibility for the requested benefits, if not previously done.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that the claimant meets the definition of medically disabled under the Medical Assistance Program as of the [REDACTED] application date, as well as for November and [REDACTED], based upon claimant's eligibility for SSI benefits.

Accordingly, the department's decision is **REVERSED**.

Accordingly, the department is **ORDERED** to reinstate claimant's retroactive application and process the application in accordance with department policy by conducting a Medical Review Team review to determine claimant's eligibility for retroactive Medical assistance for the month of [REDACTED], and if it is not already done so, to determine if all other non-medical eligibility criteria are met. The department shall inform the claimant of the determination in writing.

