

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

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[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 201272706
Issue No.: 3015
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: October 2, 2012
County: Kent

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Gary F. Heisler

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 October 2, 2012. Claimant appeared and testified.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Human Services properly close Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) on September 1, 2012?

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 was an ongoing recipient of Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.
2. On August 14, 2012, the Department updated Claimant's financial eligibility budget to include recently started earned income. The budget showed that Claimant's current income required closure of the case due to excess income. Claimant was sent notice of the determination.
3. On August 21, 2012, Claimant submitted a request for hearing.

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 AACR 400.3001-3015.

In this case Claimant's benefit group had been close to the income limit before this action. There were actually two changes in the financial eligibility budget. Claimant had started receiving a small amount of earned income and child support which had previously been in the budget had stopped. The two changes were verified with Claimant and the financial eligibility budget was reviewed. Following the review Claimant stated that she thought the two changes might have cancelled each other out but could see the reason for the Department's action. A detailed analysis of the evidence presented, applicable Department policies, and reasoning for the decision are contained in the recorded record. During the hearing Claimant was informed of the decision and the reasoning behind the decision.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, finds that the Department of Human Services properly closed Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) on September 1, 2012.

It is ORDERED that the actions of the Department of Human Services, in this matter, are UPHeld.

/s/
Gary F. Heisler
Administrative Law Judge
For Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: October 8, 2012

Date Mailed: October 8, 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.

GFH/tb

cc:

