

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2012-78253  
Issue No.: 2009; 4031  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: January 2, 2013  
County: St. Joseph

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Vicki L. Armstrong

**HEARING DECISION**

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge upon Claimant's request for a hearing made pursuant to Michigan Compiled Laws 400. 9 and 400.37, which govern the administrative hearing and appeal process. After due notice, a telephone hearing was commenced on January 2, 2013, from Lansing, Michigan. Claimant personally appeared and testified. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Assistant Payment Supervisor [REDACTED] and Eligibility Specialist [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Did the department properly deny Claimant's Medicaid (MA), Retro-MA and State Disability Assistance (SDA) application based on a finding he lacks a legally disabling condition?

**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 June 12, 2012, Claimant applied for MA/Retro-MA and SDA.
2. When the department denied that application Claimant requested a hearing by written notice dated September 10, 2012.
3. Claimant's hearing was held by telephone conference on January 2, 2013.
4. While his appeal was pending, the department's representative provided proof Claimant was determined disabled by the Social Security Administration (SSA), with onset established as of February 26, 2011.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

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 Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and Mich Admin Code, Rules 400.3151-400.3180. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

In Michigan, the SSA's determination of disability onset is binding for MA/SDA eligibility purposes. In the present case, evidence of the favorable SSA decision conclusively establishes Claimant meets the federal standard necessary to qualify for MA/SDA pursuant to BEM Items 150 and 260.

The updated evidence submitted while Claimant's MA/SDA hearing was pending shows Claimant was determined disabled as of February, 2011, well over a year before his disputed MA/SDA application was filed on June 12, 2012. Consequently, the department must reverse its erroneous denial and process Claimant's disputed application in accordance with departmental policy.

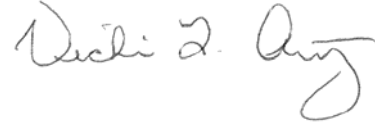
### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides the department erred in determining Claimant is not disabled.

Accordingly, the department's decision is REVERSED, and it is Ordered that:

1. The department shall approve MA/Retro-MA and SDA benefits for Claimant as long as he is otherwise eligible to receive them.

2. Departmental review of Claimant's medical condition is not necessary as long as his SSA disability status continues.



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Vicki L. Armstrong  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura D. Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: March 18, 2013

Date Mailed: March 18, 2013

**NOTICE:** Administrative Hearings 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. Administrative Hearings 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 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

2012-78253/VLA

VLA/las

cc:

