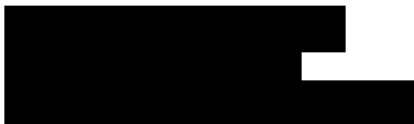


STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2013-17595
Issue No.: 2009
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: April 3, 2013
County: Iosco

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, an in-person hearing was commenced on April 3, 2013, at the Iosco County DHS office. Claimant personally appeared and testified. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Eligibility Specialist [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

During the hearing, Claimant waived the time period for the issuance of this decision in order to allow for the submission of additional medical evidence. The new evidence was forwarded to the State Hearing Review Team ("SHRT") for consideration. On June 20, 2013, the SHRT found Claimant was not disabled. This matter is now before the undersigned for a final decision.

ISSUE

Did the department properly deny Claimant's Medicaid (MA) and Retro-MA 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 May 16, 2012, Claimant applied for MA/Retro-MA.
2. When the department denied that application, Claimant requested a hearing by written notice dated November 27, 2012.
3. While his appeal was pending, the department's representative provided proof that Claimant was determined disabled by the Social Security Administration (SSA), with onset established as of July 18, 2012, by submitting a copy of the SOLQ.

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).

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

The updated evidence submitted while Claimant's MA/Retro-MA hearing was pending shows Claimant was determined disabled as of July 18, 2012. Consequently, the department must reverse its erroneous denial and process Claimant's disputed application in accordance with departmental policy.

Furthermore, based on the Social Security Administration's finding that Claimant was disabled, the only remaining issue is whether Claimant is eligible for Retro-MA. According to departmental policy, some clients also qualify for retroactive (retro) MA coverage for up to three calendar months prior to SSI entitlement; see BAM 115. BEM 150.

Departmental policy states that Retro-MA coverage is available back to the first day of the third calendar month prior to:

- The current application for FIP and MA applicants and persons applying to be added to the group.
- The most recent application (not redetermination) for FIP and MA recipients. BAM 115

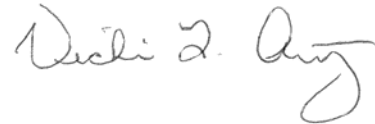
In this case, Claimant applied for MA and Retro-MA on May 16, 2012. Claimant was found Disabled by the Social Security Administration Disability Determination Service with an established onset date of July 18, 2012. According to departmental policy, "Retro-MA coverage is available back to the first day of the third calendar month prior to the current application for . . . MA." BEM 150. Therefore, based on department policy, this Administrative Law Judge finds Claimant is entitled to Retro-MA back to the first day of the third calendar month prior to his May 16, 2012, application.

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 M A/Retro-MA 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.



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

Date Signed: July 15, 2013

Date Mailed: July 16, 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.

2013-17595/VLA

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

VLA/las

cc:

