

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No: 2013-2733

Issue No: 2009; 4031

Case No: [REDACTED]

Dickinson County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Suzanne L. Morris

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. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on January 23, 2013. The claimant personally appeared and provided testimony. The department witnesses were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Did the Department of Human Services (the department) properly deny claimant's application for Medical Assistance (MA-P) and State Disability Assistance (SDA)?

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 August 14, 2012, claimant filed an application for MA and SD A benefits alleging disability.
- (2) When the department denied that application, claimant requested a hearing by written notice received by the department on August 24, 2012.
- (3) Claimant's hearing was held by telephone on January 23, 2013.
- (4) While his appeal was pending, an SOLQ report showed the claimant had been awarded RSDI benefits with a disability onset date of February 1, 2012.

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 Bridges Reference 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 MAC R 400.3151-400.3180. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Bridges Reference Manual (RFT).

Statutory authority for the SDA program states in part:

(b) A person with a physical or mental impairment which meets federal SSI disability standards, except that the minimum duration of the disability shall be 90 days. Substance abuse alone is not defined as a basis for eligibility.

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

A SOLQ report has shown claimant was determined disabled with an onset date of February 1, 2012, which is prior to when his application was submitted. Consequently, the department must reverse its erroneous denial and process claimant's disputed application in accordance with department policy.

DECISION AND ORDER

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

Accordingly, the department's determination is **REVERSED**, and it is ORDERED that:

1. The department shall approve the MA/SDA benefits for claimant under his June 13, 2012 application, as long as claimant 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.

Suzanne

/s/ _____
L. Morris
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura D. Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: July 8, 2013

Date Mailed: July 8, 2013

NOTICE: 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

SLM/hj

cc:

