

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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2013-59510
Issue No.: 2014, 3002
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: August 22, 2013
County: Mason County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Corey A. Arendt

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 August 22, 2013 from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Did the Department properly determine the Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) deductible amount and Food Assistance Program (FAP) allotment?

FINDINGS OF FACT

I find as material fact, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record:

1. As of June 17, 2013, the Claimant was receiving FAP benefits and MA.
2. On May 31, 2013 a mid-certification review was completed.
3. On June 17, 2013, the Claimant requested a hearing challenging the amount of his FAP allotment and MA deductible.
4. On July 18, 2013, the Claimant requested a hearing challenging the amount of his FAP allotment and MA deductible as well as the inclusion of his transportation expenses.

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 MA program is established by the Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MCL 400.105.

The State of Michigan has set guidelines for income, which determine if a Medicaid group is eligible. Income eligibility exists for the calendar month tested when there is no excess income, or allowable medical expenses equal or exceed the excess income (under the Deductible Guidelines). BEM 545.

In this case, the Department provided budgets and printouts of the Claimant's medical expenses, but could not explain the handwriting on some of the expenses and could not identify whether or not they were or were not included in the Claimant's FAP and MA determinations. Therefore, I was unable to determine whether all calculations were properly made at review, and all MA issuance/budgeting rules were properly applied. As such, the Department's calculation of the Claimant's FAP allotment and MA deductible is REVERSED.

Because the transportation expenses are part of the MA deductible consideration, I will not be addressing it in this decision. The issue may be moot based upon the new determinations the Department will be making.

DECISION AND ORDER

I find, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law that the Department did not act in accordance with policy in determining Claimant's FAP allotment and MA deductible.

The Department's actions are **REVERSED**.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO DO THE FOLLOWING WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

1. Initiate a redetermination as to the Claimant's eligibility for FAP and MA benefits beginning June 17, 2013 and issue retroactive benefits if otherwise eligible and qualified.



Corey A. Arendt
Administrative Law Judge
For Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: August 22, 2013

Date Mailed: August 23, 2013

NOTICE OF APPEAL: 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 (60 days for FAP cases).

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 or Reconsideration was made, within 30 days of the receipt date of the Decision and Order of Reconsideration or Rehearing Decision.

A Request for Rehearing or Reconsideration may be granted when one of the following exists:

- Newly discovered evidence that existed at the time of the original hearing that could affect the outcome of the original hearing decision;
- Misapplication of manual policy or law in the hearing decision which led to a wrong conclusion;
- Typographical, mathematical or other obvious error in the hearing decision that affects the rights of the client;
- Failure of the ALJ to address in the hearing decision relevant issues raised in the hearing request.

The Department, AHR or the claimant must specify all reasons for the request. MAHS will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration. A request must be *received* in MAHS within 30 days of the date the hearing decision is mailed.

The written request must be faxed to (517) 335-6088 and be labeled as follows:

Attention: MAHS Rehearing/Reconsideration Request

If submitted by mail, the written request must be addressed as follows:

Michigan Administrative Hearings
Reconsideration/Rehearing Request
P.O. Box 30639
Lansing, Michigan 48909-07322

2013-59510/CAA

CAA/las

cc:

