

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2013-57960
Issue No.: 2001; 3000
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: October 31, 2013
County: SSPC-WEST

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Susanne E. Harris

HEARING DECISION

Following Claimant's request for a hearing, this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and 400.37; 7 CFR 273.15 to 273.18; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; 45 CFR 99.1 to 99.33; and 45 CFR 205.10. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on October 31, 2013, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Eligibility Specialist, [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's application close Claimant's case for:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Independence Program (FIP)? | <input type="checkbox"/> State Disability Assistance (SDA)? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Assistance Program (FAP)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Child Development and Care (CDC)? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Assistance (MA)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Support Services (DSS)? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult Medical Assistance (AMP)? | <input type="checkbox"/> State SSI Payments (SSP)? |

The Claimant asserted that he had applied for FAP and that he was also denied FAP benefits in this case. The Department's ES testified that the Claimant never did apply for FAP. The record was left open until 5:00 p.m. on October 31, 2013 for the ES to submit a copy of the Claimant's application. It was received and is marked as Department's Exhibit 5. It establishes that the Claimant only ever applied for MA.

The regulations governing the hearing and appeal process for applicants and recipients of public assistance in Michigan are found in the Michigan Administrative Code, 1999 AC, R 400.901 through Rule 400.951. An opportunity for a hearing shall be granted to an applicant who requests a hearing because a claim for assistance is denied or is not acted upon with reasonable promptness, and to any recipient who is aggrieved by a Department action resulting in suspension, reduction, discontinuance, or termination of assistance. Rule 400.903(1). A request for hearing shall be in writing and signed by the claimant, petitioner, or authorized representative. Rule 400.904(1).

In this case, the Claimant did not apply for FAP and therefore, he has not been aggrieved by any Department decision regarding FAP. For the Claimant to request a hearing on a negative action regarding FAP, he must first apply for FAP and then his application or FAP case must suffer a negative action. As that did not happen in this case, the Claimant's request for hearing on a FAP issue must be and is hereby dismissed.

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 applied for: FIP FAP MA AMP SDA
 CDC DSS SSP benefits.
2. On June 4, 2013, the Department denied Claimant's application due to excess income for AMP and as the Claimant did not meet any of the other eligibility categories for MA.
3. On June 4, 2013, the Department sent Claimant its decision.
4. On July 8, 2013, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the Department's actions.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are contained in the Department of Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), and Department of Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FIP pursuant to MCL 400.10 and 400.57a and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101 to .3131.

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 271.1 to 285.5. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 to .3015.

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by the Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396-1396w-5, and is implemented by 42 CFR 400.200 to 1008.59. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10 and MCL 400.105.

The Adult Medical Program (AMP) is established by 42 USC 1315 and is administered by the Department pursuant to MCL 400.10.

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3151-.3180.

The Child Development and Care (CDC) program is established by Titles IVA, IVE and XX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 601-619, 670-679c, and 1397-1397m-5; the Child Care and Development Block Grant of 1990, PL 101-508, 42 USC 9858 to 9858q; and the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193. The program is implemented by 45 CFR 98.1-99.33. The Department administers the program pursuant to MCL 400.10 and provides services to adults and children pursuant to MCL 400.14(1) and Mich Admin Code, R 400.5001-.5020.

Direct Support Services (DSS) is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The program is administered by the Department pursuant to MCL 400.10 and 400.57a and Mich Admin Code R 400.3603.

The State SSI Payments (SSP) program is established by 20 CFR 416.2001-.2099 and the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1382e. The Department administers the program pursuant to MCL 400.10.

Procedural History: The instant hearing was originally scheduled to occur on [REDACTED]. On [REDACTED], the hearing request was dismissed because the Claimant had failed to appear for his telephone hearing. On [REDACTED], the Michigan Administrative Hearing System received the Claimant's letter asserting that no one telephoned him for his hearing and he requested to have the hearing that was to have occurred on [REDACTED]. On [REDACTED], Supervising Administrative Law Judge [REDACTED] issued an Order Vacating the Dismissal and Order to Schedule Matter for Hearing. The Claimant's hearing was rescheduled for [REDACTED] and that hearing commenced as scheduled.

The uncontested facts in this case are that the Claimant is not under 21 or over 65, pregnant, a care taker of minor children, blind or disabled. Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 105 (2013) p. 1, provides that MA is comprised of several eligibility categories. Claimants may be eligible for MA if the Claimant is blind, disabled, over 65 or under 21, pregnant or a caretaker of minor children. The Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department properly determined that the Claimant is ineligible for MA because he does not fall into one of the MA categories set by departmental policy.

Also uncontested was the fact that the Claimant's earned, [REDACTED] at the time of application was \$ [REDACTED]. The AMP budget in evidence was thoroughly reviewed. The Administrative Law Judge concludes that, allowing for the earned income deduction of \$ [REDACTED] plus 20% of the remaining income which is then deducted from the Claimant's gross income of \$ [REDACTED] the Claimant's net income is \$ [REDACTED] (\$ [REDACTED]).

\$ [REDACTED] \$ [REDACTED] 20% of \$ [REDACTED] \$ [REDACTED] \$ [REDACTED] + \$ [REDACTED] \$ [REDACTED] \$ [REDACTED]

The Department's Reference Tables at RFT 236 (2009) sets the income levels to be eligible for AMP. For the Claimant's group size of one person RFT 236 p. 1, provides that the AMP income level is \$ [REDACTED]. As such, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department properly determined that the Claimant had excess income to be eligible for AMP.

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, if any, finds that the Department acted in accordance with Department policy when it took action to deny the Claimant's application for MA and AMP.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

/s/ _____
Susanne E. Harris
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 11/6/13

Date Mailed: 11/6/13

NOTICE OF APPEAL: 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.

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).

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

SEH/tb

cc:

