

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2014-12637
Issue No(s): 1008
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: December 17, 2013
County: Muskegon

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Katherine Talbot

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, telephone hearing was held on December 17, 2013, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED], Family Independence Manager, and [REDACTED], Triage Specialist.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly close the Claimant's Family Independence Program benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. The Claimant was receiving cash benefits through the Family Independence Program (FIP).
2. He was re-engaged with the Partnership, Accountability, Training, Hope (PATH) Program on August 16, 2013.
3. The Claimant was required to submit job search information as a requirement of the PATH program. He submitted several Job Search Contact Logs for the month of October 2013. See Exhibit 3.

4. On October 23, 2013, the Claimant was found to be non-compliant. The Department found the Claimant had falsified the Job Search Logs he had submitted. The Claimant was referred for a triage appointment.
5. The Department found the Claimant falsified the Job Search Logs because he reported applying with an employer that is no longer in business at the location listed. The employer was [REDACTED]. The address provide by the Claimant was [REDACTED] Exhibit 3.
6. The Claimant reported he applied with the above [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. See Exhibit 3.
7. On November 7, 2013, the triage was conducted. [REDACTED] a Triage Specialist, and the Claimant were present. The Department did not find good cause for the non-compliance.

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), Department of Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and Department of Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

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.

The State Emergency Relief (SER) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The SER program is administered by the Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) pursuant to MCL 400.10 and by Mich Admin Code, R 400.7001 through R 400.7049.

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.

The Claimant's testimony was self-serving and contradictory. The Administrative Law Judge finds the testimony of [REDACTED], a Triage Specialist, to be more credible than the Claimant's.

The Claimant confirmed he listed the employer [REDACTED] in his Job Search logs for the dates of [REDACTED]. He testified he made an error when he recorded the address of this employer. The Claimant confirmed the [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] was closed at the time he completed the Job Search Logs. He testified he applied at two other [REDACTED] locations. He stated one was in a mall and the other was on "[REDACTED] [REDACTED]". The Claimant stated he looked up the address in the telephone book after he applied.

The Administrative Law Judge finds the Claimant's assertion that he merely made a mistake is not credible. He testified he applied at a store located on [REDACTED]. Then, the Claimant recorded the address as [REDACTED]." See Exhibit 3. The claimant's explanation was not reasonable.

The stronger evidence indicates that the Claimant falsified the information reported on Job Search Logs required to satisfy participation in PATH. The falsification establishes that the Claimant was not compliant with the PATH program.

The Administrative Law Judge, based on 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 closed the Claimant's . close the Claimant's Family Independence Program benefits.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.



Katherine Talbot
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 12/23/13

Date Mailed: 12/23/13

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.

2014-12637/KT

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

KT/tb

cc:

