

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



Reg No. 2013-13157  
Issue No. 2009  
Case No. [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: March 7, 2013  
Kent County DHS

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Vicki L. Armstrong

**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, an in-person hearing was held on March 7, 2013. Claimant personally appeared and testified. Participants on behalf of the department included Assistant Payment Supervisor Lisa Orr.

**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 August 20, 2012, Claimant applied for MA/Retro-MA based on disability.
2. When the department denied that application, Claimant requested a hearing by written notice dated November 21, 2012.
3. On January 6, 2013, the State Hearing Review Team (SHRT) denied Claimant's MA application indicating Claimant retained the capacity to perform his past work as a custodian.
4. Claimant's hearing was held by telephone on November 7, 2012.
5. During the hearing, this Administrative Law Judge received a State Online Query (SOLQ) from the department showing Claimant had

received a Fully Favorable decision from the Social Security Administration (SSA) and had been determined disabled, with an onset date established as of August 18, 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 Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

In Michigan, the SSA's determination of disability onset is binding for 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.

Based on the SOLQ showing SSA found that Claimant was disabled with an onset date of August, 2012, the only remaining issue is whether Claimant is eligible for Retro-MA. 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, Retro-MA and SDA on August 20, 2012. Claimant was found Disabled by SSA with an established onset date of August 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 August, 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 MA and SDA benefits for Claimant as long as he is otherwise eligible to receive them and Retro-MA back to May, 2012.
2. Departmental review of Claimant's medical condition is not necessary as long as his SSA disability status continues.

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

Date Signed: March 7, 2013

Date Mailed: March 8, 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.

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

2013-13157/VLA

VLA/las

cc:

