

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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2013-40037
Issue No.: 3000
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: May 8, 2013
County: Wayne (82-31)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Zainab Baydoun

SETTLEMENT ORDER

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 May 8, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Claimant appeared and testified. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Whether the Department properly:

- denied Claimant's application for benefits
- closed Claimant's case for benefits
- reduced Claimant's benefits

for:

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

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 an unverified date, the Department

- denied Claimant's application for benefits
- closed Claimant's case for benefits
- reduced Claimant's benefits

under the following program(s):

- FIP FAP MA AMP SDA CDC SER.

2. On March 28, 2013, the Department sent notice to Claimant (or Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative) of the

- denial
- closure
- reduction.

3. On April 3, 2013, Claimant filed a request for hearing concerning the Department's action.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are found in the Department of Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and State Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp (FS) program] is established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 through R 400.3015.

The law provides that disposition may be made of a contested case by stipulation or agreed settlement. MCL 24.278(2).

In the present case, Claimant's FAP benefits were recalculated in connection with a redetermination. On March 28, 2013, the Department sent Claimant a Notice of Case Action informing her that the Department intended to close her FAP case due to excess income. Claimant disputed this action and requested a hearing. At the hearing, the Department acknowledged that there were errors in the calculation of Claimant's earned income and that an improper group size was applied. The Department testified that prior to the hearing date, Claimant's FAP case was reinstated and the Department was working to resolve the issues. Soon after commencement of the hearing, the parties testified that they had reached a settlement concerning the disputed action. Consequently, the Department agreed to do the following: (i) begin recalculating the

FAP budget for the benefit period beginning March 1, 2013, ongoing in accordance with Department policy; (ii) begin issuing supplements to Claimant for any FAP benefits that she was eligible to receive but did not from March 1, 2013, ongoing in accordance with Department policy; and (iii) notify Claimant of its decision in writing in accordance with Department policy.

As a result of this settlement, Claimant no longer wishes to proceed with the hearing. As such, it is unnecessary for this Administrative Law Judge to render a decision regarding the facts and issues in this case.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department and Claimant have come to a settlement regarding Claimant's request for a hearing.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Begin recalculating the FAP budget for the benefit period beginning March 1, 2013, ongoing in accordance with Department policy;
2. Begin issuing supplements to Claimant for any FAP benefits that she was eligible to receive but did not from March 1, 2013, ongoing in accordance with Department policy; and
3. Notify Claimant of its decision in writing in accordance with Department policy.



Zainab Baydoun

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

Date Signed: May 15, 2013

Date Mailed: May 16, 2013

NOTICE: 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)

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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.

ZB/pf

cc:

