

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

██████████
██████████████████
██████████████████████████████

Reg. No.: 2013-47921
Issue No.: 1038
Case No.: ██████████
Hearing Date: June 13, 2013
County: Wayne (17)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Jan Leventer

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 June 13, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant and ██████████, interpreter. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ██████████, Eligibility Specialist.

ISSUE

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

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

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 benefits received benefits for:

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

2. On May 1, 2013, the Department
 denied Claimant's application closed Claimant's case
due to a determination that he failed to cooperate with the requirements of the work-readiness program.
3. On March 20, 2013, the Department sent
 Claimant Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR)
notice of the denial. closure.
4. On May 14, 2013, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the
 denial of the application. closure of the case.

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 Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-193, 42 USC 601, *et seq.* The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FIP pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and 1999 AC, Rule 400.3101 through Rule 400.3131. FIP replaced the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program effective October 1, 1996.

Additionally, in this case the Department terminated Claimant's FIP benefits because he failed to appear for a triage conference on March 28, 2013, to explain his noncompliance with FIP work-readiness requirements. However, the Department failed to present sufficient proof to establish that the conference actually occurred.

The Department's evidence consists of a conclusory statement in the Department's Hearing Summary, which is a document that is prepared in advance of the Administrative Hearing. Dept. Exh. 1, p. 1. However, the person who prepared the Hearing Summary is not the person who purportedly held a triage conference on March 28, 2013. The Department presented no notes or records of such a conference, even though the specific reason for the termination of benefits is Claimant's failure to come to the conference.

Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 105, "Rights and Responsibilities," states that the Department has three responsibilities: determine eligibility, provide benefits and protect client rights. In this case the Department failed to protect the Claimant's right to a hearing before his benefits were terminated. The Department's failure to conduct a conference, at which the Claimant could present good cause reasons for failing to participate in the work-readiness program, resulted in a failure to determine eligibility and provide benefits correctly as well. The Department shall be reversed. Department of Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 105 (2013).

Based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department

properly denied Claimant's application improperly denied Claimant's application
 properly closed Claimant's case improperly closed Claimant's case

for: AMP FIP FAP MA SDA CDC.

DECISION AND ORDER

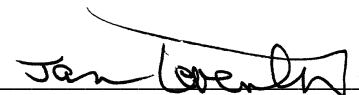
The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, finds that the Department

did act properly. did not act properly.

Accordingly, the Department's AMP FIP FAP MA SDA CDC decision is AFFIRMED REVERSED for the reasons stated on the record.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO INITIATE THE FOLLOWING ACTION WITHIN TEN DAYS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS ORDER:

1. Reinstate Claimant's FIP benefits.
2. Provide retroactive and ongoing FIP benefits to Claimant at the benefit level to which he is entitled.
3. Provide Claimant with an opportunity to participate in the work-readiness program or else to request a medical deferral.
4. Delete all penalties and sanctions from Claimant's file records.
5. All steps shall be taken in accordance with Department policy and procedure.



Jan Leventer

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

Date Signed: June 13, 2013

Date Mailed: June 17, 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)

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 affect the substantial rights of the claimant,
 - 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

JL/tm

cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]