

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No: 20135039  
Issue No: 2009; 4031  
Case No: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: February 6, 2013  
Genesee County DHS #2

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Suzanne L. Morris

**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, a telephone hearing was held on February 6, 2013. The claimant personally appeared and provided testimony. The department witnesses were [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Did the Department of Human Services (the department) properly deny claimant's application for Medical Assistance (MA-P) and State Disability Assistance (SDA)?

**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 June 7, 2012, claimant filed an application for Medical Assistance (MA) and State Disability Assistance (SDA) benefits alleging disability.
2. When the department denied that application, claimant timely requested a hearing by written notice.
3. Claimant's hearing was held by telephone on February 6, 2013.
4. While her appeal was pending, claimant provided proof she was determined disabled by the Social Security Administration (SSA), with disability onset established as of June 22, 2011.

**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 Bridges Reference Manual (RFT).

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MAC R 400.3151-400.3180. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Bridges Reference Manual (RFT).

In Michigan, the SSA's determination of disability onset is binding for MA eligibility purposes. In the present case, evidence of the fully favorable SSA decision conclusively establishes claimant meets the federal disability standard necessary to qualify for MA/SDA pursuant to BEM 150, 260 and 261.

Claimant has shown the SSA has determined her disabled as of June 22, 2011, which is prior to when her application was submitted. Consequently, the department must reverse its erroneous denial and process claimant's disputed application in accordance with department policy.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that the department erred in determining claimant is not disabled.

Accordingly, the department's determination is **REVERSED**, and it is ORDERED that:

1. The department shall approve the MA/SDA benefits for claimant under her June 7, 2012 application, as long as claimant meets all non-medical eligibility factors.
2. Departmental review of claimant's medical condition is not necessary as long as her SSA disability status continues.

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Suzanne L. Morris  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura D. Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_

**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 mailing 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

SLM/cr

cc:

