

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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 201414424
Issue No.:
Case No.:
Hearing Date: January 8, 2014
County: SSPC West

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Gary F. Heisler

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, a telephone hearing was held on January 8, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included herself. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ES . There is no negative action on Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA). That portion of the hearing is dismissed.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Human Services properly deny Claimant's October 23, 2013 Food Assistance Program (FAP) application because she failed to provide required verifications?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, including testimony of witnesses, finds as material fact:

1. On October 23, 2013, Claimant applied for Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.
2. On October 24, 2013, Claimant participated in a telephone interview. During the interview Claimant reported a checking account with Wells Fargo. Claimant was authorized to receive expedited FAP benefits pending full approval. Claimant was sent a Verification Checklist (DHS-3503) requesting verification of the checking account. The required verification was due on November 4, 2013.

3. On November 13, 2013, the Department received a bank statement for the account through June 19, 2013. On the statement Claimant wrote "This account is closed + I cannot get any more recent documents." (Page 10)
4. On November 18, 2013, Claimant was sent a Notice of Case Action (DHS-1605) which stated she would receive no more Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits after November 30, 2013.
5. On November 20, 2013, Claimant filed a hearing request.

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

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.

Claimant does not dispute that the bank statement is older. Review of the statement shows that the address on the statement is in Arizona and on June 19, 2013, the account balance was – (negative) [REDACTED]. During this hearing Claimant testified that she had lived in Arizona and the account was closed by the bank because of the negative balance.

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 denied Claimant's October 23, 2013, Food Assistance Program (FAP) application because she failed to provide required verifications.

DECISION AND ORDER

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

/s/ _____
Gary F. Heisler
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 01/13/2014

Date Mailed: 01/13/2014

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.

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

GFH/sw

cc:

