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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2014-20580

Issue No.: 3002

Case No.:

Hearing Date: January 30, 2014

County: SSPC-West

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Carmen G. Fahie

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, three-way telephone hearing was held on Thursday, January 30, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ES.

<u>ISSUE</u>

Due to a failure to comply with the verification requirements, did the Department properly deny Claimant's application for Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits?

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:

- Claimant applied for FAP benefits.
- 2. Claimant was required to submit requested verification by December 23, 2013.
- 3. The Department denied Claimant's application for the benefit period of December 4, 2013 and ongoing.
- 4. On December 26, 2013, the Department sent Claimant notice of its action.
- 5. On December 30, 2013, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the Department's action.

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.

Additionally, the Claimant applied for FAP on December 4, 2013. On December 12, 2013, the Department Caseworker sent the Claimant a Verification Checklist for written verification due December 23, 2013. Department Exhibit 6-9. The Claimant failed to provide the required asset verification of her closed checking account that was due on December 23, 3013. As a result, on December 26, 2013 the Department Caseworker sent the Claimant a notice that her FAP application was denied effective December 4, 2013 due to failure to provide verification. Department Exhibit 10-14. BEM 400 and 554. BAM 105, 115, 130, 200, 210, and 220.

The Department met their burden by proving that the Claimant's FAP application should be denied because the Claimant failed to provide the required verification to determine FAP eligibility.

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 the Claimant's FAP application for failure to provide the required verification to determine eligibility for FAP.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

Carmen G. Fahie

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

Date Signed: February 4, 2014

Date Mailed: February 5, 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

CGF/aca

CC:

