

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



Reg. No.: 20144630  
Issue No.: 1002  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: March 27, 2014  
County: Pathway to Potential

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Alice C. Elkin

**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 March 27, 2014, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED], Success Coach at Pathways to Potential.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's August 28, 2013, application for Family Independence Program (FIP) benefits?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. On August 28, 2013, Claimant applied for FIP benefits.
2. On September 4, 2013, the Department sent Claimant a Verification Checklist (VCL) requesting verification of her address by September 16, 2013.
3. On September 6, 2013, Claimant provided a copy of her identification which included her current address.
4. On September 19, 2013, the Department sent Claimant a Notice of Case Action denying her application.

**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), Department of Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and Department of Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FIP pursuant to MCL 400.10 and 400.57a and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101 to .3131.

Additionally, an application must include the applicant's address. BAM 105 (July 2013), p. 1. The Department testified that Claimant's August 23, 2013 FIP application was denied because she had failed to verify her address by the September 16, 2013 VCL due date. At the hearing, the Department testified that Claimant had in fact provided a copy of her identification on September 6, 2013, which included her current address. The Department acknowledged that the document provided was responsive to the VCL request. Therefore, the Department did not act in accordance with Department policy when it denied Claimant August 23, 2013 FIP application for failure to verify residence.

At the hearing, Claimant also alleged that she had filed online applications beginning in March 2013 requesting FIP assistance that were not processed by the Department. However, Claimant's hearing request was tied to the September 19, 2013 Notice of Case Action that denied her August 23, 2013 application and there was no indication on the request that Claimant was asserting that prior applications had been filed and not processed. The Department denied receiving any prior applications. Under these facts, Claimant failed to present the issue of the processing of any prior applications for the current hearing.

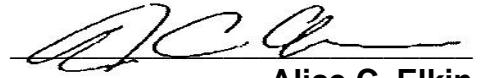
The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, if any, finds that the Department did not act in accordance with Department policy when it denied Claimant's August 23, 2013 FIP application.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is REVERSED.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

1. Reregister and reprocess Claimant's August 23, 2013 FIP application;
2. Issue supplements to Claimant for any FIP benefits she was eligible to receive but did not from August 23, 2013, ongoing; and
3. Notify Claimant in writing of its decision.

  
**Alice C. Elkin**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: April 3, 2014

Date Mailed: April 3, 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:

2014-4630/ACE

Michigan Administrative Hearings  
Reconsideration/Rehearing Request  
P.O. Box 30639  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-07322

ACE/tif

cc:

