

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



Reg. No.: 2014-9600  
Issue No(s): 2009  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: March 5, 2014  
County: Newaygo

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Vicki L. Armstrong

**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; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; and 45 CFR 205.10. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on March 5, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Claimant personally appeared and provided testimony. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Lead Eligibility Specialist [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Whether the Department of Human Services (the department) properly denied Claimant's application for Retro-Medical Assistance (Retro-MA)?

**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 18, 2013, Claimant applied for MA-P and Retro-MA.
- (2) On October 15, 2013, the Medical Review Team (MRT) denied Claimant's MA-P and Retro-MA application for lack of duration. (Dept Ex A, pp 1-2).
- (3) On October 18, 2013, the Department sent Claimant notice that his application was denied.
- (4) On October 29, 2013, Claimant filed a request for a hearing to contest the Department's negative action.
- (5) On May 21, 2014, the State Hearing Review Team (SHRT) found Claimant was disabled and approved MA-P. SHRT denied Retro-MA. (Dept Ex. B, pp 1-2).

- (6) Claimant has a history of severe osteoarthritis, diabetes, hypertension, obstructive sleep apnea and chronic pain.
- (7) Claimant is a 55 year old man whose birthday is [REDACTED]. Claimant is 5'11" tall and weighs 300 lbs. Claimant completed high school.
- (8) Claimant had applied for Social Security disability benefits at the time of the hearing.

### **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 Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

Based on SHRT's finding that Claimant was disabled with an onset date of 7/15/13, the only remaining issue is whether Claimant is eligible for Retro-MA. Departmental policy states that Retro-MA coverage is available back to the first day of the third calendar month prior to:

- The current application for FIP and MA applicants and persons applying to be added to the group.
- The most recent application (not redetermination) for FIP and MA recipients. BAM 115

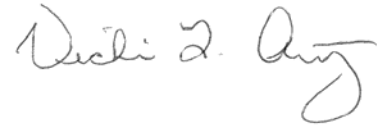
In this case, Claimant applied for MA and Retro-MA on June 18, 2013. Claimant was found Disabled by SHRT with an established onset date of July 15, 2013, when he turned 55 years of age. According to departmental policy, "Retro-MA coverage is available back to the first day of the third calendar month prior to the current application for . . . MA." BEM 150. Therefore, based on department policy, this Administrative Law Judge finds Claimant is entitled to Retro-MA back to the first day of the third calendar month prior to his June 18, 2013, application.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides the Department erred in determining Claimant was not eligible for Retro-MA according to Departmental policy.

Accordingly, the Department's action is **REVERSED**, and this case is returned to the local office to determine whether Claimant met all of the other financial and non-financial eligibility factors necessary to qualify for Retro-MA.

**It is SO ORDERED.**



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Vicki L. Armstrong  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura D. Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: June 6, 2014

Date Mailed: June 6, 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.

2014-9600/VLA

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

VLA/las

cc:

