

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

████████████████████  
████████████████████  
████████████████████

Reg. No.: 2014-5631  
Issue No.: 2009  
Case No.: ██████████  
Hearing Date: February 24, 2014  
County: Wayne (82-76)  
Wayne (82-57)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Jonathan W. Owens

**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, an in-person hearing was held on February 24, 2014, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant ██████████. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ██████████ ██████████ ██████████

The record was extended to allow additional relevant medical evidence to be submitted. Claimant waived timeliness. The additional medical evidence was received and submitted to the State Hearing Review Team (SHRT) for review prior to this decision being issued.

**ISSUE**

Whether the Department properly determined that Claimant is not "disabled" for purposes of the Medical Assistance (MA-P) program?

**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 March 29, 2013, Claimant applied for MA-P and retro MA-P to December 2012.
2. On July 9, 2013, the Medical Review Team denied Claimant's request.

3. On October 11, 2013, Claimant submitted to the Department a request for hearing.
4. SHRT denied Claimant's request.
5. Claimant is 27 years old.
6. Claimant completed education through high school.
7. Claimant has no employment experience.
8. Claimant's limitations have lasted for 12 months or more.
9. Claimant suffers from lupus, hyperthyroidism, loss of balance and vertigo, tachycardia, viral syndrome and dehydration.
10. Claimant has significant limitations on physical activities involving sitting, standing, walking, bending, lifting, and stooping.

### **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 Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396-1396w-5; 42 USC 1315; the Affordable Care Act of 2010, the collective term for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-152; and 42 CFR 430.10-.25. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.105-.112k.

Pursuant to Federal Rule 42 CFR 435.540, the Department uses the Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) policy in determining eligibility for disability under MA-P. Under SSI, disability is defined as:

...the inability to do any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.... 20 CFR 416.905.

A set order is used to determine disability. Current work activity, severity of impairments, residual functional capacity, past work, age, or education and work experience are reviewed. If there is a finding that an individual is disabled or not disabled at any point in the review, there will be no further evaluation. 20 CFR 416.920.

Medical evidence may contain medical opinions. Medical opinions are statements from physicians and psychologists or other acceptable medical sources that reflect judgments about the nature and severity of the impairment(s), including symptoms, diagnosis and prognosis, what an individual can do despite impairment(s), and the physical or mental restrictions. 20 CFR 416.927(a)(2).

The Administrative Law Judge is responsible for making the determination or decision about whether the statutory definition of disability is met. The Administrative Law Judge reviews all medical findings and other evidence that support a medical source's statement of disability. 20 CFR 416.927(e).

For mental disorders, severity is assessed in terms of the functional limitations imposed by the impairment. Functional limitations are assessed using the criteria in paragraph (B) of the listings for mental disorders (descriptions of restrictions of activities of daily living, social functioning; concentration, persistence or pace; and ability to tolerate increased mental demands associated with competitive work). 20 CFR, Part 404, Subpart P, Appendix 1, 12.00(C).

Claimant testified to the following symptoms and abilities: fatigues easily, dizzy spells, muscle aches in her back that come and go on a weekly basis impacting her lower back, when she has the muscle aches she has to lie down for at least a couple of hours, severe headaches, problems with numbness in her feet that can last all day long which impacts her ability to walk and stand and this occurs weekly, falls asleep, body temp fluctuates, tightness in forearms and aches and blood flow to hands increase and hands get hot, can stand 5-10 minutes before getting tired, able walk ½ block, can sit an hour or two before getting tired and sleepy, manages some of her household chores but it takes longer to complete, able to manage personal care, not able to manage grocery shopping, no driver's license, she has night sweats, face will puff up due to medications, calf tightness and Charlie horse feeling in her legs at night, sometimes she has moments where her fingers swell up towards the bottom of her finger joint and they are painful, and at times she has problems losing her train of thought.

Claimant's mother testified she was an active person until [REDACTED]. Not able to complete activities as she used to do. She doesn't attend family or church functions. She has been hospitalized several times in the last year. She isn't reading as much as she used to read. She stays in her night clothes and does not get dressed every day.

A DHS-49 completed [REDACTED] by a physician indicated that Claimant was, in fact, limited. This physician noted that Claimant should avoid lifting all weight. Further, Claimant's limitations were expected to last a year and would be reevaluated.

In this case, this Administrative Law Judge finds that Claimant may be considered presently disabled at the third step. Claimant appears to meet listing 14.02 B or its equivalent. This Administrative Law Judge will not continue through the remaining

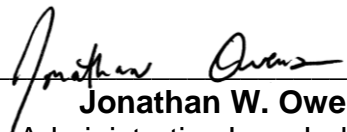
steps of the assessment. Claimant's testimony and the medical documentation support the finding that Claimant meets the requirements of a listing.

Therefore, Claimant is found to be disabled for purposes of MA benefits.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that Claimant is medically disabled as of December 2012.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is hereby REVERSED and the Department is ORDERED to initiate a review of the application dated March 29, 2013, if not done previously, to determine Claimant's non-medical eligibility. The Department shall inform Claimant of the determination in writing. A review of this case shall be set for August 2015.

  
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**Jonathan W. Owens**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: July 28, 2014

Date Mailed: July 28, 2014

**NOTICE OF APPEAL:** A party may appeal this Hearing Decision in the circuit court in the county in which he/she resides or has its principal place of business in the State, or the circuit court in Ingham County, within 30 days of the receipt date.

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Hearing Decision from the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS) within 30 days of the mailing date of this Hearing Decision, or MAHS may order a rehearing or reconsideration on its own motion.

MAHS may grant a party's Request for Rehearing or Reconsideration 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 party requesting a rehearing or reconsideration 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 this Hearing Decision is mailed.

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A written request may be faxed or mailed to MAHS. If submitted by fax, 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

JWO/pf

cc: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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