

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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 14-002065
Issue No.: 2001
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: August 7, 2014
County: Oakland #3

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, a telephone hearing was held on Thursday, August 7, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny the Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) benefits because the Claimant did not meet her spend-down/deductible?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. The Claimant was a recipient with a medical deductible of [REDACTED].
2. Subsequently, the Claimant submitted medical expenses for May 14, 2013; May 15, 2013; May 29, 2013; and July 30, 2013.
3. According to the Department, the Claimant's medical expenses submitted did not total up to her medical deductible until May 16, 2013.
4. On March 14, 2014, the Department Caseworker sent the Claimant a notice that her Medicaid was active for May 2013 on May 16, 2013. Department Exhibit a.
5. On April 14, 2014, the Department received a hearing request from the Claimant contesting the Department's action and requests in the hearing.

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 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.

Additionally, the Claimant was a recipient of a medical spend down/deductible of [REDACTED]. Subsequently, the Claimant submitted receipts to meet her deductible for May 14 2013, but the Department is stating that she didn't meet her deductible until May 16, 2013. The Claimant was eligible for freedom to work for the month of March 2013 and April 2013. BAM 105 and 115. BEM 530 and 545.

During the hearing, the Department did not meet their burden that they properly processed the Claimant's medical expenses for the contested time period of May 2013. As a result, the Department is ordered to reregister and re-determine eligibility for May 2013 based on the expenses provided by the Claimant.

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 failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it failed to show that the Claimant did not meet a deductible before May 16, 2013.

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. Initiate a redetermination of the Claimant's eligibility for MA eligibility for May 2013 based on the medical expenses received from the Claimant. The Department may be better served by doing a worksheet of the expenses to show how the determination was made in case the Claimant requests another hearing so that the Department can meet their burden.

2. Provide the Claimant with written notification of the Department's revised eligibility determination.
3. Issue the Claimant any retroactive benefits she/he may be eligible to receive, if any.

Carmen G. Fahie

Carmen G. Fahie
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: **8/28/2014**

Date Mailed: **8/28/2014**

NOTICE OF APPEAL: A party may appeal this Hearing Decision in the circuit court in the county in which he/she resides, or 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 Claimant;
- 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.

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

CGF/tb/jaf

cc:

