

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2014-22316  
Issue No.: 2009; 4009  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: August 5, 2014  
County: Mecosta

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

**HEARING DECISION**

Following Claimant's Authorized Representative'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 August 5, 2014, from Big Rapids, Michigan. Claimant, represented by [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] personally appeared and testified. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Assistance Payment Supervisor [REDACTED] and Eligibility Specialist [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's application for Medical Assistance (MA-P), Retro MA and State Disability Assistance (SDA)?

**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 6, 2013, and June 24, 2013, Claimant filed an application for Medical Assistance and State Disability Assistance benefits alleging disability.
2. Claimant applied for Social Security Insurance (SSI) on July 14, 2011.
3. The Medical Review Team (MRT) found Claimant not disabled on October 17, 2013.
4. The Department notified Claimant of the MRT decision on 10/24/13.
5. The Social Security Administration (SSA) found Claimant not disabled.
6. On January 16, 2014, Claimant's Authorized Representative filed a request for a hearing to contest the Department's action.

7. On March 6, 2014, the State Hearing Review Team (SHRT) found Claimant not disabled.
8. Claimant did not appeal the SSA determination.

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

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department of Human Services (DHS or department) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and Mich Admin Code, Rules 400.3151-400.3180. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

The disability standard for both disability-related MA and SSI is the same. BEM 271, p. 1, (July 2013). The SSA's determination that disability or blindness does **not** exist for SSI is **final** for MA if:

- The determination was made after 1/1/90, **and**
- No further appeals may be made at SSA; see EXHIBIT II in this item, **or**
- The client failed to file an appeal at any step within SSA's 60 day limit, **and**
- The client is **not** claiming:
  - A totally different disabling condition than the condition SSA based its determination on, **or**
  - An additional impairment(s) or change or deterioration in his condition that SSA has **not** made a determination on. BEM 260, p. 3, (July 2013).

Eligibility for MA based on disability or blindness does **not** exist once SSA's determination is **final**. BEM 260, p. 3, (July 2013).

When the SSA determines that a client is not disabled/blind for SSI purposes, the client may appeal that determination at SSA. BEM 260, p. 11, (July 2013). The SSA Appeals Process consists of three steps:

1. Reconsideration (if initial application filed prior to October 1, 1999).

2. Hearing.
3. Appeals Council. BEM 260, p. 11, (July 2013).

BEM 260, p. 9. The client has 60 days from the date he receives a denial notice to appeal an SSA action. BEM 260, p. 11; BEM 271, p. 7. An SSA determination becomes final when no further appeals may be made at SSA. BEM 260, p. 3 (July 2013). Once an SSA's determination that a disability or blindness does not exist becomes final, the MA case must be closed. BEM 260, p. 3; BEM 271, p. 8, (July 2013).

Claimant testified that he applied for SSI last year and was denied on 6/13/13. Claimant stated he had not appealed.

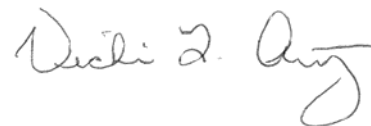
In the instant matter, Claimant did not appeal the decision and more than 60 days have lapsed since the SSA found Claimant not disabled. Claimant has not alleged a new disabling impairment. In light of the foregoing, the final SSA determination is binding on Claimant's MA-P case. Accordingly, the Department's MA-P/Retro-MA and SDA determination is correct.

#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law finds Claimant is not disabled for purposes of the MA-P/Retro-MA and SDA benefit programs.

The Department's determination is **AFFIRMED**.

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: August 18, 2014

Date Mailed: August 18, 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

VLA/las

cc:

