

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

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

Reg. No.: 14-008080  
Issue No.: 2003  
Case No.: ██████████  
Hearing Date: September 4, 2014  
County: MACOMB (20)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Jacquelyn A. McClinton**

**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 September 4, 2014, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ██████████ ██████████, Hearing Facilitator.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly close Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) benefits for failure to return a Redetermination?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. Claimant was an ongoing MA recipient.
2. On March 11, 2011, the Department sent Claimant a Redetermination which was required to be completed and returned by April 1, 2014.
3. Claimant returned the Redetermination on April 4, 2014.
4. The Department did not have any record of receipt of the Redetermination.
5. On July 19, 2014, the Department notified Claimant that her MA benefits would close effective August 1, 2014 because she failed to submit the Redetermination.

6. On July 26, 2014, Claimant filed a Request for Hearing disputing the Department's actions.

### **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 Department is required to periodically redetermine or renew an individual's eligibility for active programs. The redetermination process includes thorough review of all eligibility factors. BAM 210 (July 2014), p. 1. In this case, the Department indicated that it mailed a Redetermination on March 11, 2014. The Redetermination was required to be completed and returned by April 1, 2014. Claimant testified that she hand delivered the Redetermination on April 4, 2014 to her assigned worker. The Department acknowledged that Claimant was in its office on April 4, 2014. However, the Department testified that it had no record of receipt of the completed Redetermination. Claimant's assigned worker was not present at the hearing and therefore, the Department was unable to dispute Claimant's testimony that she hand delivered the completed Redetermination on April 4, 2014.

On July 19, 2014, the Department sent Claimant a Health Care Determination Notice which notified Claimant that her MA benefits would close effective August 1, 2014. Accordingly, the negative action effective date was August 1, 2014. When a client meets the requirement before the negative action effective date, the Department is required to delete the negative action and process Claimant's redetermination for eligibility. BAM 220 (July 2014), p. 12. Accordingly, because Claimant submitted the Redetermination before the negative action effective date, the Department should have redetermined her eligibility for MA benefits.

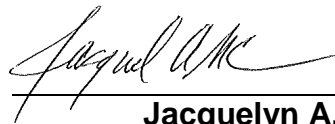
The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, if any, finds that the Department did not act in accordance with policy when it closed Claimant's MA benefits effective August 1, 2014.

**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. Redetermine Claimant's eligibility for MA benefits effective August 1, 2014;
2. Issue any MA supplements Claimant was eligible to receive but did not; and
3. Notify Claimant in writing of its decision.



**Jacquelyn A. McClinton**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: **9/12/2014**

Date Mailed: **9/12/2014**

JAM / cl

**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 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.

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

CC:

[REDACTED]