

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 14-010440  
Issue No.: 7007  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: December 16, 2014  
County: Ingham

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Kevin Scully

**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 December 16, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED] as authorized hearings representative. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly determine the Claimant's eligibility for the Medicare Savings Program (MSP)?

**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 applied for Medical Assistance (MA) benefits on August 8, 2014.
2. The Department approved the Claimant for Medical Assistance (MA) with retroactive benefits through May 1, 2014.
3. On August 22, 2014, the Department received the Claimant's request for a hearing protesting the Department's failure to issue Medicare Savings Program (MSP) before August 1, 2014.

**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.

Under certain circumstances, the Department may award Medical Assistance (MA) benefits for up to three months retroactive to the application date. Department of Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 115. Department policy does not include any provision for retroactive Medicare Savings Plan (MSP) benefits. Department of Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 165.

In this case, the Claimant applied for Medical Assistance (MA) on August 8, 2014. The Department approved the Claimant for Medical Assistance (MA) based on disability and receipt of benefits issued by the Social Security Administration (SSA), and awarded retroactive benefits through May 1, 2014. The Claimant also applied for and was approved for the Medicare Savings Plan (MSP) as of his application date.


The Claimant's representative testified that her son did not apply for Medical Assistance (MA) immediately after being awarded disability benefits by the Social Security Administration (SSA). The Claimant's representative argued that since her son is eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) based on disability, she should be able to apply for Medicare Savings Program benefits for the retroactive period as well.

Department policy does not include any provision for the awarding of retroactive Medicare Savings Plan (MSP) benefits.

Therefore, 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 acted in accordance with Department policy when it denied the Claimant's request for retroactive Medicare Savings Plan (MSP) benefits.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Scully  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: **12/19/2014**

Date Mailed: **12/19/2014**

KS/las

**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:

