

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

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

Reg. No.: 14-015608
Issue Nos.: 1008, 2001, 3001
Case No.: ██████████
Hearing Date: December 4, 2014
County: Wayne (31-Grandmont)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael J. Bennane

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

ISSUE

Did the Department properly schedule Claimant's Family Independence Program (FIP) benefits case for closure?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. On October 23, 2014, the Department sent Claimant a notice of noncompliance with employment-related activities and the PATH.
2. On October 23, 2014, the Department sent Claimant a notice of case action informing her that her FIP benefits were scheduled to close December 1, 2014.
3. On October 29, 2014, Claimant requested a hearing to protest the negative action taken by the Department.

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 Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FIP pursuant to 45 CFR 233-260, MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101 to .3131.

Medical Assistance (MA) and Food Assistance Program (FAP) Issues

The Department took no negative action concerning Claimant's MA and FAP benefits; therefore, Claimant's request for hearing on these two issues is DISMISSED.

FIP Issue

On October 29, 2014, Claimant attended a triage meeting to discuss her noncompliance with work-related activities. The Department found no good cause for Claimant's failure to partake in work-related activities.

At the hearing, Claimant presented documentation of her having completed various tasks relating to work-related activities. Department representatives agreed that Claimant appeared to be compliant with work-related activities based on the documentation provided by Claimant. BEM 233A (October, 2014).

Claimant requested a hearing prior to the negative action announced by the Department's October 23, 2014, notice of case action. Department documents provided at the hearing demonstrate that Claimant requested a hearing in a timely manner and that the Department did not close Claimant's FIP benefits pending this hearing.

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 .
- did not act in accordance with Department policy when it failed to utilize documentation demonstrating that Claimant complied with work-related activities.
- failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it .

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is

AFFIRMED.

REVERSED.

AFFIRMED IN PART with respect to _____ and **REVERSED IN PART** with respect to _____

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. Maintain the active status of Claimant's FIP benefits that were scheduled to close December 1, 2014.



Michael J. Bennane
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: **12/11/2014**

Date Mailed: **12/11/2014**

MJB / pf

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.

