

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 14-008340
Issue No.: 1002, 3002
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: October 09, 2014
County: WAYNE-18 (TAYLOR)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Lynn Ferris

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, telephone hearing was held on October 9, 2014, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant and [REDACTED], the Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED], Eligibility Specialist, and [REDACTED], Assistance Payments Supervisor.

ISSUE

Due to a failure to comply with the verification requirements, did the Department properly deny Claimant's application for FIP Cash Assistance and close Claimant's Food Assistance case.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, including testimony of witnesses, finds as material fact:

1. Claimant applied for FIP benefits on July 17, 2014. The Claimant was an on-going recipient of FAP benefits.
2. Claimant was required to submit requested verification by July 8, 2014. The Claimant submitted all the requested verifications by the due date. Exhibit 2
3. On July 17, 2014, the Department denied the Claimant's FIP application for failure to provide school attendance records and verification of earned income. Exhibit 3
4. The Department also closed the Claimant's FAP case effective August 1, 2014, due to failure to provide rent expense and earned income verification. Exhibit 3

5. On June 28, 2014, the Department sent Claimant/Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR) notice of its action.
6. On July 24, 2014, Claimant/Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative (AHR) filed a hearing request, protesting the Department's action.

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), and Department of Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

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.

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 to .3015.

Additionally, in this case the evidence produced by the Department at the hearing demonstrated that all of the requested verifications requested by the Verification Checklist dated June 28, 2014, were date-stamped received by the Department by the due date July 8, 2014. Based upon the evidence presented, the Department presented no evidence of failure to verify information which would support denial of the Claimant's FIP application and closure of the FAP case due to failure to verify requested information. BAM 130 (7/1/14).

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 Department policy when it closed the Claimant's FAP case and denied the Claimant's FIP application for failure to provide verification information.

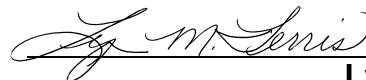
DECISION AND ORDER

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. The Department shall re-register the Claimant's June 17, 2014 application for FIP cash assistance, and shall process the case to determine eligibility.
2. The Department shall reinstate the Claimant's FAP case effective August 1, 2014, and shall issue a supplement for FAP benefits the Claimant was otherwise entitled to receive in accordance with Department policy.



Lynn Ferris
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: **10/9/2014**

Date Mailed: **10/9/2014**

LMF / tm

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:

