

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

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

Reg. No.: 14-016421
Issue No.: 1002
Case No.: ██████████
Hearing Date: February 23, 2015
County: WAYNE-57 (CONNER)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Robert J. Chavez

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 February 23, 2015, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included ██████████ Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ██████████ Family Independence Specialist.

ISSUE

Due to a failure to comply with the verification requirements, did the Department properly deny Claimant's application for Family Independence Program (FIP) benefits?

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 benefits.
2. Claimant was required to submit requested verification by October 27, 2014.
3. Claimant failed to submit the requested verification.
4. On November 7, 2014, the Department denied Claimant's application.
5. On November 7, 2014, the Department sent Claimant/Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR) notice of its action.
6. On November 14, 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.

Additionally, the Department properly requested verification of residence. Address is among factors to be verified for FIP benefits. BEM 220, pg. 6 (2014).

On October 30, 2014, Claimant returned a state ID for verification purposes, but this ID did not match the address Claimant provided on her application. As such, there was a discrepancy, and the Department properly requested clarification of the discrepancy.

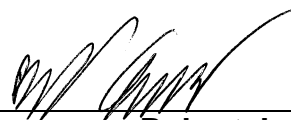
Claimant testified that on October 31, 2014, she returned to the Department with information to resolve the discrepancy. However, Claimant's name does not appear on the sign-in logs for this day. Department Exhibit 4.

There is no other evidence that Claimant returned proper verification of residency. Therefore, as there is no evidence that proper verification was returned, and as the Department was correct in requesting verification of residency, the Department was correct when it denied Claimant's FIP application for failing to return proper residency verification.

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 Claimant's FIP application.

DECISION AND ORDER

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



Robert J. Chavez
Administrative Law Judge
for Nick Lyon, Interim Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: **3/26/2015**
Date Mailed: **3/26/2015**
RJC / 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 48909-8139

CC:

[REDACTED]