

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

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Reg. No.: 2014-12027
Issue No(s): 1001
Case No.: ██████████
Hearing Date: January 27, 2014
County: Wayne (57)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Zainab Baydoun

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 January 27, 2014, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant and her sister, ██████████. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ██████████, Eligibility Specialist and Alice Gilmer, Family Independence Manager.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's Family Independence Program (FIP) application?

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 September 10, 2013, Claimant submitted an application for FIP benefits.
2. On September 11, 2013, the Department sent Claimant a Notice of Case Action informing her that her application had been denied on the basis that the group is not eligible for assistance because no group member is an eligible child. (Exhibit 3)
3. On November 4, 2013, Claimant submitted a hearing request 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 Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FIP pursuant to MCL 400.10 and 400.57a and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101 to .3131.

Additionally, FIP group composition is the determination of which individuals living together are included in the FIP eligibility certified group. To be eligible for FIP: the group must include a dependent child who lives with a legal parent, stepparent or other qualifying caretaker and the group cannot contain an adult who has accumulated more than 60 TANF funded months, beginning October 1, 1996, or any other time limits in the FIP. BEM 210, (July 2013), p. 1. A dependent child is an unemancipated child who lives with a caretaker and is one of the following: under age 18 or age 18, and a full time high school student. BEM 210, p. 2. A child is emancipated if any of the following: ever validly married, emancipated by court order, or on active duty with the armed forces of the U.S. BEM 210, p.2.

At the hearing, the Department testified that Claimant's application was denied because at the time of application, Claimant was ■ years old and lived at home with her mother. The Department testified that because Claimant was under 18 years old and lived with her mother, Claimant's mother was required to submit a FIP application for Claimant and Claimant's child. Claimant confirmed that at the time of her application, she was ■ years old and lived with her mother.

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.



Zainab Baydoun
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: February 18, 2014

Date Mailed: February 19, 2014

NOTICE OF APPEAL: The claimant may appeal the Decision and Order to Circuit Court within 30 days of the receipt of the Decision and Order or, if a timely Request for Rehearing or Reconsideration was made, within 30 days of the receipt date of the Decision and Order of Reconsideration or Rehearing Decision.

Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS) may order a rehearing or reconsideration on either its own motion or at the request of a party within 30 days of the mailing date of this Decision and Order. MAHS will not order a rehearing or reconsideration on the Department's motion where the final decision cannot be implemented within 90 days of the filing of the original request (60 days for FAP cases).

A Request for Rehearing or Reconsideration may be granted 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 Department, AHR or the claimant 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 the hearing decision is mailed.

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

ZB/tm

cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]