

**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.: 2014-15339
Issue No.: 2000;3008
Case No.: ██████████
Hearing Date: January 6, 2013
County: Wayne (19)

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 three way telephone hearing was held on January 6, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ██████████, Family Independence Manager.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly calculate Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits and process her Medical Assistance (MA) benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. Claimant was an ongoing recipient of FAP and MA benefits.
2. Claimant did not agree with the amount of her FAP benefits.
3. On November 21, 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).

MA

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by the Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396-1396w-5, and is implemented by 42 CFR 400.200 to 1008.59. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10 and MCL 400.105.

The hearing was requested to dispute the Department's action taken with respect to Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) benefits. Shortly after commencement of the hearing, Claimant testified that she understands and is satisfied with the actions taken by the Department and that she no longer had any issues to address with respect to her MA case. Claimant further confirmed that she did not wish to proceed with the hearing concerning her MA case, as she had active and ongoing MA benefits. The Request for Hearing was withdrawn. The Department agreed to the dismissal of the hearing request. Pursuant to the withdrawal of the hearing request filed in this matter, the Request for Hearing regarding the MA case is hereby **DISMISSED**.

FAP

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 271.1 to 285.5. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 to .3015.

Additionally, Claimant requested a hearing disputing the amount of her FAP benefits. Claimant stated that she was terminated from her job in July 2013, and was informed by the Department that she would be penalized for three months. Claimant testified that she completed a change report and submitted it to the Department on August 26, 2013, and signed the log, although her name did not appear on the log reviewed during the hearing. Because however, there was no evidence presented concerning the employment penalty or a FAP disqualification and because Claimant contended that her FAP benefits should have been increased beginning November 2013, the only remaining issue for purposes of this Hearing Decision is the calculation of Claimant's FAP benefits for November 2013, ongoing.

The Department testified and Claimant confirmed that she received ██████ in FAP benefits for the month of November 2013. The Department failed to present any testimony concerning Claimant's group size and income or any FAP budgets for the months at issue to allow the undersigned to make a determination as to whether or not

Claimant received the correct amount of FAP benefits for those months or to determine if her FAP budget was properly calculated. Therefore, the Department has failed to satisfy its burden in establishing that it properly calculated Claimant's FAP benefits for November 1, 2013, ongoing.

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 failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it calculated Claimant's FAP benefits for November 1, 2013, ongoing.

The Department testified that Claimant's FAP case had closed effective January 1, 2014. However, because Claimant was informed of the case closure at the hearing and Claimant's hearing request was dated November 21, 2013, the issue of the FAP case closure was not addressed at the hearing. Claimant was informed that should she dispute the case closure, she was entitled to request a hearing and have that issue resolved.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, Claimant's hearing request with respect to MA is DISMISSED and the Department's FAP 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. Recalculate Claimant's FAP budget for November 1, 2013, ongoing;
2. Issue supplements to Claimant for any FAP benefits she was eligible to receive but did not from November 1, 2013, ongoing; and
3. Notify Claimant of its decision in writing.



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

Date Signed: January 10, 2014

Date Mailed: January 10, 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]