

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

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

Reg. No.: 2014-21407
Issue No(s): 2001
Case No.: ██████████
Hearing Date: March 13, 2014
County: Wayne (43)

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 March 13, 2014, from Detroit, Michigan. Claimant did not appear for the hearing. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative (AHR), ██████████, from ██████████. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ██████████, Family Independence Manager.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly process Claimant's 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. In August 2012, Claimant submitted an application for MA benefits, retroactive to July 2012.
2. On January 16, 2014, Claimant submitted a hearing request, asking that the Department properly process the application and provide Claimant with his retroactive MA benefits.

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 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.

Additionally, when the Department receives an application for assistance, it is to be registered and processed in accordance with Department policies. The standard of promptness (SOP) begins the date the department receives an application/filing form, with minimum required information. BAM 115 (May 2013), p. 13. Retro MA coverage is available back to the first day of the third calendar month prior to the entitlement for SSI. BAM 115, p. 11. The Department is to certify program approval or denial of the application within 45 days and upon certification of eligibility results, the Department is to notify clients in writing of positive and negative actions by generating the appropriate notice of case action. After processing an initial application, the Department will notify clients of the approval or denial. BAM 115, pp. 13, 18; BAM 220 (November 2012), p. 1.

In this case, Claimant submitted a hearing request concerning the Department's failure to properly process Claimant's MA application, seeking retroactive MA benefits. Claimant's AHR testified that although the application was processed and Claimant's MA coverage was activated for August 2012, ongoing, the Department did not process the application with respect to the retroactive month, July 2012.

At the hearing, the Department testified that the retroactive application was subsequently processed and that Claimant was approved for MA benefits for the month of July 2012, ongoing. The Department presented an eligibility summary in support of its testimony to establish that Claimant had active MA benefits under the AD-Care MA program and that the benefits for July 2012 were certified on February 11, 2014. (Exhibit 1). The Department did testify however, that it had not submitted a DHS 1038 Request for Exception to the 12 Month Billing Limitation for Medical Services and that this was required prior to Claimant's provider being authorized to bill for the retroactive period. Therefore, although the Department activated MA benefits for July 2012, the required documents had not been submitted authorizing the provider to bill for services.

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 processed Claimant's MA benefits.

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. Submit the Request for Exception to the 12 Month Billing Limitation for Medical Services to the Department of Community Health;
2. Allow Claimant's MA provider to bill for services rendered from July 2012, 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: March 17, 2014

Date Mailed: March 18, 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]
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