

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2014-31498
Issue No(s): 2027
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: April 16, 2014
County: Oakland-02

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Darryl T. Johnson

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 April 16, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant [REDACTED], his brother [REDACTED], and his Designated Hearing Representative [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Eligibility Specialist [REDACTED] and Assistance Payments Supervisor [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Did the Department properly close Claimant's Medicaid (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 on-going recipient of State SSI while he was receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) from the Social Security Administration (SSA).
2. Claimant's SSI benefits were terminated by the SSA in December 2013.
3. In a Notice of State SSI Payment Change dated February 18, 2014 (Exhibit 1 Pages 5-6), Claimant's State SSI benefits were closed effective February 18, 2014 because he was no longer receiving SSI.
4. Claimant requested a hearing on March 3, 2014.

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.

BEM 150 (1/1/14) describes Department policies respective to SSI MA benefits. It states at page 1, "Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a cash benefit for needy individuals who are aged (at least 65), blind or disabled. The Social Security Administration (SSA) determines SSI eligibility." Claimant is not 65 or older, is not blind, and has not been found to be disabled. "Ongoing MA eligibility begins the first day of the month of SSI entitlement."

"The following individuals are considered SSI recipients for MA purposes even though they do **not** receive an SSI cash grant:

"Individuals appealing termination of SSI because SSA has determined they are no longer disabled or blind. DHS local offices are responsible for determining initial and continuing eligibility; see MA While Appealing Disability Termination in this item.

"1619 Recipients - Certain blind or disabled SSI recipients who work and have too much income for an SSI cash grant may be eligible for continued MA coverage. SSA determines eligibility. These recipients are the same as other SSI recipients in Bridges."

Implicitly, if an individual is not 65 or older, not blind, not disabled, or not appealing termination of SSI because SSA has determined they are no longer disabled or blind, then they will not receive any SSI.

"When SSI benefits stop, central office evaluates the reason based on SSA's negative action code, then does one of the following:

"• SSI Closure. MA-SSI is closed in Bridges if SSI stopped for a reason that prevents continued MA eligibility (for example, death, moved out of state). Bridges sends the recipient an (sic) DHS-1605.

"• Transfer to SSIT. SSI cases not closed due to the policy above are transferred to the SSI Termination (SSIT) Type of Assistance. A redetermination date is set for the second month after transfer to allow for an ex parte review; see glossary." Id at 6.

Because Claimant's SSI case closed with the SSA he was longer eligible for State SSI.

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 closed Claimant's State SSI.

DECISION AND ORDER

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



Darryl T. Johnson
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: April 17, 2014

Date Mailed: April 17, 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.

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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

DTJ/las

cc:

