

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

██████████
██████████
██████████

Reg. No.: 15-007638
Issue No.: 2001
Case No.: ██████████
Hearing Date: June 29, 2015
County: Wayne (55-Hamtramck)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Alice C. Elkin

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; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. After due notice, an in-person hearing was held on June 29, 2015, from Hamtramck, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant ██████████
Participants on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) included ██████████

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's application for 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. On March 9, 2015, Claimant applied for MA benefits (Exhibit B).
2. Claimant is 67 years old, with an ██████████ birthdate.
3. On May 5, 2015, the Department sent Claimant an Application Notice notifying him that his MA application was denied because he did not provide the Department with information needed to determine eligibility (Exhibit A).
4. On May 1, 2015, Claimant filed a request for hearing disputing the Department's actions.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are contained in the Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), Department of Health and Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and Department of Health and Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396-1396w-5; 42 USC 1315; the Affordable Care Act of 2010, the collective term for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-152; and 42 CFR 430.10-.25. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.105-.112k.

The Department testified that Claimant was denied MA because he failed to provide a copy of his I-551, permanent resident card, to verify his alien status. The Department is required to use the DHS-3503 Verification Checklist to tell the client what verification is required, how to obtain it, and the due date. BAM 130 (October 2014), p. 3.

The AHR denied that Claimant ever received a letter or a verification checklist requesting a copy of Claimant's permanent resident card. Although the Department testified that in processing Claimant's application one was required to be sent, it failed to present any evidence supporting its testimony. In light of the AHR's testimony and the Department's failure to include any documentary evidence showing it requested verification of Claimant's alien status, the Administrative Law Judge finds that the Department failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it denied Claimant's MA application.

It is noted that the Department contended that Claimant was seeking MA coverage under the Healthy Michigan Program (HMP). A client is entitled to the most beneficial program, which is the program that results in eligibility and the least excess income. BEM 105 (October 2014), p. 2. Based on Claimant's age being over 67 years old, the Department must consider his eligibility for SSI-related categories, which provides MA coverage for individuals who are blind, disabled, or over age 65, even if he is ineligible for HMP. See BEM 105, p. 1.


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. Reregister and reprocess Claimant's March 9, 2015, MA application;
2. Provide Claimant with MA coverage he is eligible to receive from March 1, 2015 ongoing; and
3. Notify Claimant in writing of its decision.



Alice C. Elkin
Administrative Law Judge
for Nick Lyon, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

Date Signed: **6/30/2015**

Date Mailed: **7/01/2015**

ACE / pf

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 copy of the claim or application for appeal must be filed with the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Hearing Decision from 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]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]