

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



Reg. No.: 15-008850  
Issue No.: 1008  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: July 29, 2015  
County: INGHAM

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Gary Heisler

**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, a telephone hearing was held on July 29, 2015, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included herself. Participants on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) included AP Supervisor [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's April 6, 2015, Family Independence Program 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 April 6, 2015, Claimant submitted a Family Independence Program application.
2. On April 8, 2015, Claimant was sent a FAST Referred Notice (DHS-1535) which stated she was required to complete a Family Automated Screening Tool (FAST) within 30 days. The notice also stated that if she did not complete the FAST DHS would deny or stop her cash assistance.
3. On May 21, 2015, Claimant had not completed the FAST. Claimant was sent a Notice of Case Action (DHS-1605) which stated her Family Independence Program application was denied.
4. On May 26, 2015, Claimant submitted a hearing request.

**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).

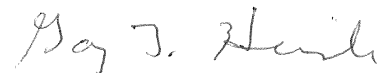
The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FIP pursuant to 45 CFR 233-260, MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101-.3131.

During this hearing Claimant did not dispute her failure to complete a FAST. Claimant testified that she received the FAST Referred Notice (DHS-1535) but misunderstood it. Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 233A Failure to Meet Employment and/or Self-Sufficiency-Related Requirements: FIP (5-1-2014) defines failing to complete a FAST, without good cause, as noncompliance. At page 2, it states "Failure to complete a FAST or FSSP results in closure due to failure to provide requested verification. Clients can reapply at any time."

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 April 6, 2015, Family Independence Program application.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

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



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Gary Heisler  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Nick Lyon, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

Date Signed: **8/12/2015**

Date Mailed: **8/12/2015**

GFH / 

**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:

