

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 15-000335
Issue No.: 2001
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: March 12, 2015
County: Wayne (19-Inkster)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael J. Bennane

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 12, 2015, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant [REDACTED] Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED]

ISSUE

Did the Department properly process Claimant's Medical Assistance (MA) 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 July 29, 2014, and September 22, 2014, Claimant applied for MA.
2. On October 15, 2014, the Department sent Claimant a health care coverage determination informing Claimant that she was not eligible for health care coverage due to excess assets.
3. On January 9, 2015, and January 21, 2015, Claimant requested hearings to protest the denial of her MA applications.

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 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 Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.105-.112k.

In the instant case, Claimant testified that she never received any documentation from the Department concerning her July 29, 2014, application. Claimant testified that the Department told her to reapply for MA benefits without explaining the Department's failure to process the June 29, 2014, MA application.

The Department did send Claimant a health care coverage determination notice notifying her that she was not eligible because her assets exceeded limits in Departmental policy. In that notice, the Department cited BEM 400 and ERM 205. ERM 205 addresses assets for a State Emergency Relief (SER) group. Since Claimant's application was for MA benefits, ERM 205 is irrelevant.

There are different asset tests for different MA programs. Because the Department addresses the issue of medical cost share but does not provide documentation of Claimant's assets, this Administrative Law Judge is unable to decide if Claimant's assets exceed the Department's policy for all of the MA programs.

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 .
- ☒ did not act in accordance with Department policy when it failed to process Claimant's July 29, 2014, MA application.
- ☐ failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it .

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is

- ☐ **AFFIRMED.**
- ☒ **REVERSED.**
- ☐ **AFFIRMED IN PART** with respect to and **REVERSED IN PART** with respect to .

☒ 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. The Department will accept documentation from Claimant concerning the assets in question and reregister and reprocess Claimant's July 29, 2014, MA application and supplement for any benefits missed in accordance with Departmental policy.


Michael J. Bennane
Administrative Law Judge
for Nick Lyon, Interim Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: **3/25/2015**

Date Mailed: **3/25/2015**

MJB / 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 party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Hearing Decision from the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (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]