

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 15-009863
Issue No.: 2001, 2008
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: July 23, 2015
County: WAYNE-DISTRICT 15

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Lynn M. Ferris

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 23, 2015, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative [REDACTED]. The Claimant did not appear. Participants on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED], Eligibility Specialist and [REDACTED], FIM.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly process the Claimant's application for retro Medical Assistance (MA) for June 2013?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. The Claimant was found eligible for SSI by the Social Security Administration in July 2013.
2. The Claimant's AHR filed a retro MA application for June 2013, dated [REDACTED].
3. At the time of the hearing a help desk ticket was pending to activate MA coverage for July 2013 ([REDACTED]). Exhibit 1 (not received). The Department never activated MA Ad Care coverage for July 2013 based upon Claimant's SSI eligibility. The Department activated MA in April 2014 and never processed the MA retro application for the month of June 2013.

4. The Claimant's AHR requested a hearing on June 11, 2015, protesting the Department's failure to act.

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.

In this case, the Department never processed the Claimant's MA retro application filed with the Department on [REDACTED]. The Department also never activated coverage for the Claimant in July 2013 for Medical Assistance based upon Claimant's SSI approval for that month.

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.

In Michigan, DHS supplements federal SSI payments based on the client's living arrangement. Thus, in this item **SSI recipient** means a Michigan resident who receives the basic federal payment, the state supplement, or both.

To be **automatically** eligible for Medicaid (MA) an SSI recipient must both:

- Be a Michigan resident.
- Cooperate with third-party resource liability requirements.

DHS administers MA for SSI recipients, including a continued MA eligibility determination when SSI benefits end.

Ongoing MA eligibility begins the first day of the month of SSI entitlement. Some clients also qualify for **retroactive** (retro) MA coverage for up to three calendar months prior to SSI entitlement; see BAM 115. BEM 150 (April 1, 2015 p. 1.

The Department could not explain why SSI eligibility was not automatically activated for July 2013. Nonetheless, the Claimant was entitled to MA Ad Care as of that date. Clearly the Department also did not process the retro MA application filed with the Department on [REDACTED].

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 did not act in accordance with Department policy when it failed to activate MA Ad Care coverage for July 2013 and failed to process the Claimant's retro MA application for June 2013. .

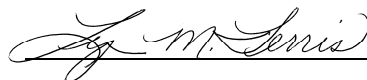
DECISION AND ORDER

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. The Department shall activate MA Ad Care coverage for the Claimant for the month of July 2013 based upon Claimant's approval by SSA of SSI.
2. The Department shall register the [REDACTED] retro MA application for June 2013 and process the application and determine eligibility in accordance with Department policy.



Lynn M. Ferris
Administrative Law Judge
for Nick Lyon, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

Date Signed: **8/21/2015**
Date Mailed: **8/21/2015**

LMF / hw

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:

