

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 15-013360
Issue No.: 3001
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: September 09, 2015
County: Muskegon

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Carmen G. Fahie

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 September 9, 2015, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED], Family Independence Manager and [REDACTED] Family Independence Specialist.

ISSUE

Due to excess income, did the Department properly reduce Claimant's benefits for Food Assistance Program (FAP)?

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 received FAP benefits.
2. On July 9, 2015, the Department reduced Claimant's benefits due to excess income.
3. On July 9, 2015, the Department sent Claimant its decision that due to excess income that the Claimant's FAP benefits were decreased from \$ [REDACTED] to \$ [REDACTED].
4. On July 20, 2015, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting 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 Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001-.3011.

In this case, the Claimant received FAP benefits. On July 9, 2015, the Department reduced Claimant's benefits due to excess income. On July 9, 2015, the Department sent Claimant its decision that due to excess income that the Claimant's FAP benefits were decreased to \$ [REDACTED] from \$ [REDACTED]. On July 20, 2015, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the Department's actions.

As a result of excess income, the Claimant had a decrease in FAP benefits. The Claimant had earned income of \$ [REDACTED] and unearned income of \$ [REDACTED]. After deductions from her gross income of \$ [REDACTED] of \$ [REDACTED] earned income deduction and a \$ [REDACTED] standard deduction for an adjusted gross income of \$ [REDACTED]. The Claimant was given a total shelter deduction of \$ [REDACTED] resulting from a housing expense of \$ [REDACTED] and heat and utility standard of \$ [REDACTED]. The Claimant was given an adjusted excess shelter deduction of \$ [REDACTED] with a total shelter deduction of \$ [REDACTED] minus 50% of adjusted gross income of \$ [REDACTED]. The Claimant had a net income of \$ [REDACTED] which was the adjusted gross income of \$ [REDACTED] minus the excess shelter deduction of \$ [REDACTED]. With a net income of \$ [REDACTED], the Claimant qualified with a household group size of 6 for a maximum benefit of \$ [REDACTED] plus \$0 in economic recovery minus 30% of net income of \$ [REDACTED] resulting in a net benefit amount of \$ [REDACTED]. Department Exhibit 5-39.

The Department has met its burden that the Claimant had excess income for FAP resulting in a decrease in FAP benefits from \$ [REDACTED] to \$ [REDACTED] BEM 500 and 550. 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 reduced the Claimant's FAP benefits due to excess income.

DECISION AND ORDER

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



Carmen G. Fahie
Administrative Law Judge
for Nick Lyon, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

Date Signed: **9/11/2015**

Date Mailed: **9/11/2015**

CGF/las

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:

