

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

MAHS Reg. No.: 15-018102  
Issue No.: 2001  
Agency Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: December 15, 2015  
County: KALAMAZOO

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Susanne E. Harris

**HEARING DECISION**

Following the Petitioner'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 December 15, 2015, from Kalamazoo, Michigan. The Petitioner, [REDACTED] was present, as were his witnesses, his wife, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Hearing Facilitator, [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny the Petitioner's application for Medical Assistance (MA) due to his being active on his wife's MA case?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. At all times relevant to this case, the Petitioner had MA benefits because he was active on his wife's case. The Petitioner's wife's MA case is subject to a deductible because the Petitioner and his wife have income. The Petitioner has previously and unsuccessfully protested this deductible.
2. On July 23, 2015, the Petitioner submitted an application for MA.
3. On July 24, 2015, the Petitioner was sent a DHS-1606, Health Care Coverage Determination Notice, informing the Petitioner that his application was denied because he is eligible for MA on another case.

4. On September 18, 2015, the Department received the Petitioner's written hearing request protesting the denial of his application for MA.

### **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, it is not contested that the Petitioner has MA benefits. During the hearing, the Petitioner protested the deductible on the MA benefits that he receives on his wife's case. Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 211 (2015) p. 5, provides that an adult fiscal and asset group is the adult and her spouse. Therefore, the Petitioner necessarily is included in his wife's MA group. As the Petitioner receives MA benefits as part of his wife's group, he is not eligible for additional MA benefits.

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 took action to deny the Petitioner's application for MA.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

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



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Susanne E. Harris  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Nick Lyon, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

Date Mailed: **12/16/2015**

SEH/nr

**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:

