

**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.: 15-018802
Issue No.: ESO
Agency Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: December 17, 2015
County: DHHS SPECIAL
PROCESSING OFFICE

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Kevin Scully

HEARING DECISION

Pursuant to a September 8, 2014 federal lawsuit, the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) issued notices to Medicaid applicants who were potentially denied full Medicaid coverage based on immigration status between January 2014 and May 2015. The notice included information about how to request a hearing. Petitioner filed a request for a hearing and accordingly this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to Michigan Administrative Hearing Rules (R 792.10101 – R 792.11903) and the Administrative Procedures Act, 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 *et seq.*

After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on December 17, 2015, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by his wife and authorized hearing representative [REDACTED]. The Department was represented by [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's immigration status or citizenship when determining Medicaid (MA) eligibility?

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:
2. On September 12, 2014 Petitioner applied for MA or had a redetermination of current MA benefits.
3. On the date of MA application or redetermination, Petitioner was not a United States citizen.

4. Beginning January 1, 2015, Petitioner's full-coverage MA case was converted for Emergency Services Only (ESO) MA coverage or denied MA coverage.
5. The Department issued a notice to the Petitioner indicating he/she might have been denied full MA coverage based on immigration status between January 2014 and May 2015.
6. On August 31, 2015, Petitioner requested a hearing.

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), Department of Health and Human Services Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Related Eligibility Manual (MREM), 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 administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.105-.112k.

In this case, Petitioner requested a hearing disputing the conversion to ESO MA and/or denial of full MA coverage. The Petitioner had attested to having lawful presence at the time of her application, but her case was converted to ESO MA when the Department verified that she had not been in the US for more than five years.

To be eligible for full MA coverage a person must be a U.S. citizen or an alien admitted to the U.S. under a specific immigration status. BEM 225 (October 1, 2015), p. 2-3. Petitioner testified that she is an immigrant from Nigeria and an resident of the US since April 17, 2014. At time of application or redetermination, Petitioner or Petitioner's family member status was permanent resident alien.

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** properly determine Petitioner's immigration status or citizenship when determining MA eligibility.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's determination about MA eligibility based on immigration status is **AFFIRMED**.



Kevin Scully
Administrative Law Judge
for Nick Lyon, Director
Department of Health and Human
Services

Date Signed: **1/7/2016**
Date Mailed: **1/7/2016**

KS / 

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.

cc:

