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

#### IN THE MATTER OF:



MAHS Reg. No.: Issue No.: Agency Case No.: Hearing Date: County:

15-019928 ESO 2001

January 07, 2016 DHHS SSPC OFFICE

## ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Carmen G. Fahie

## 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 January 7, 2015, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was present and testified on his own behalf. The Department was represented by **Exercise**, Eligibility Specialist, who testified on behalf of the Department. **Exercise** served as translator during the hearing.

## ISSUE

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

## 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 June 30, 2015, the Petitioner applied for MA or had a redetermination of current MA benefits.
- 2. On the date of MA application or redetermination, Petitioner was not a United States (U.S.) citizen and not eligible for full MA, but Emergency Services Only (ESO).

- 3. Beginning June 1, 2014, through October 31, 2014, the Petitioner was **approved** correctly for ESO MA coverage.
- 4. On August 28, 2015, the 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 activation/denial** of full MA coverage.

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. The Petitioner testified that he was not eligible for full MA benefits. At the time of application or redetermination, Petitioner or Petitioner's family member status was not eligible for full MA.

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 <u>did</u> 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**.

Carmon I. Sahie

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

Date Mailed: 01/11/2016

CGF/jaf

**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.

