



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM  
Christopher Seppanen  
Executive Director

MIKE ZIMMER  
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]

Date Mailed: March 9, 2016  
MAHS Docket No.: 15-021911;15-021580;  
15-022146 and 15-021599  
Agency No.: [REDACTED]  
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Aaron McClintic**

### **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 March 3, 2016, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioners were represented by their mother [REDACTED]. The Department was represented by [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] 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 July 13, 2014 Petitioners applied for MA or had a redetermination of current MA benefits.

2. On the date of MA application or redetermination, Petitioners were not a United States citizens.
3. Beginning July 2014, Petitioner's **full-coverage MA case and/or application** was **converted/approved** for Emergency Services Only (ESO) MA coverage or denied MA coverage.
4. The Department issued a notice to the Petitioners indicating he/she might have been denied full MA coverage based on immigration status between January 2014 and May 2015.
5. On September 16, 2015, Petitioners requested a hearing.
6. On November 10, 2015, the Department issued a Benefit Notice that reads as follows: "[REDACTED] is approved for full healthcare coverage beginning 04/14-10/15." Identical notices were issued for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].
7. Petitioners' Medicaid coverage reverted to Emergency Services Only Medicaid in November 2015 because they did not have the required immigration status.
8. Petitioners' began living in the United States on March 11, 2014, under an Immigrant Visa.

### 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 (October 2013), p. 32. Petitioners are from Lebanon. At time of application or redetermination, [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were not permanent residents

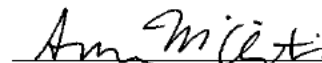
for more than 5 years or U.S. citizens. Therefore the reversion to Emergency Services Only Medicaid was proper and correct. BEM 225

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 Petitioners' immigration statuses or citizenship when determining MA eligibility.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's determination about MA eligibility based on immigration status for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are **AFFIRMED.**

AM/las



**Aaron McClintic**

Administrative Law Judge

for Nick Lyon, Director

Department of Health and Human Services

**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).

**DHHS**

[REDACTED]

**Petitioner**

[REDACTED]