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

SHELLY EDGERTON DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: April 27, 2016 MAHS Docket No.: 15-023781 Agency No.: Petitioner:

## ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Gary Heisler

## **HEARING DECISION**

Following 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, a telephone hearing was held on March 30, 2016, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner was represented by herself. The Department was represented by Hearing Facilitator Testimony was received from all participants. Department's Exhibit A, pages 1 - 15 was admitted into evidence.

#### <u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's Medicare Savings Program (MSP) eligibility on September 25, 2015?

# FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- On September 17, 2015, Petitioner submitted a Redetermination (DHS-1010) for redetermination of her Medical Assistance (MA) and Food Assistance Program (FAP). On the Redetermination (DHS-1010) Petitioner indicated she had a "Part B" expense.
- On September 25, 2015, Petitioner was sent a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice (DHS-1606) which stated she was eligible for Medicare Savings Program (MSP) benefits beginning October 1, 2015. The notice also stated that Petitioner was not eligible for MSP in September 2015 due to having full Medicaid coverage.

3. On December 16, 2015, Petitioner submitted a hearing request.

# 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.

Petitioner submitted this hearing request because she did not receive reimbursement from Social Security Administration for the Medicare premiums withheld before October 2015. Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 165 Medicare Savings Programs at page 3 states:

# MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAMS COVERAGE BEGIN DATES

#### **QMB Begin Date**

Begin QMB coverage the calendar month after the processing month. The processing month is the month during which an eligibility determination is made. QMB is **not** available for past months or the processing month.

In this case the Department first became aware that Petitioner was eligible for Medicare Part B in September 2015. September 2015 was the processing month. The policy cited above states that QMB is not available for the past months or the processing month.

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 determined Petitioner's Medicare Savings Program (MSP) eligibility on September 25, 2015.

## DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

GH/nr

Bay J. Huik

Gary Heisler Administrative Law Judge for Nick Lyon, Director Department of Health and Human Services

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**: A party may appeal this Order in circuit court within 30 days of the receipt date. A copy of the circuit court appeal must be filed with the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Order if the request is received by MAHS within 30 days of the date the Order was issued. The party requesting a rehearing or reconsideration must provide the specific reasons for the request. MAHS will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration.

A written request may be mailed or faxed to MAHS. If submitted by fax, the written request must be faxed to (517) 335-6088; 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

DHHS



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# Petitioner