



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

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

SHELLY EDGERTON  
DIRECTOR

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Date Mailed: November 4, 2016  
MAHS Docket No.: 16-014615

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**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Aaron McClintic**

**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 November 1, 2016, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by herself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by ██████████ Hearing Facilitator. Department Exhibit 1, pp.1-32 was received and admitted.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. Petitioner was a recipient of FAP benefits receiving \$██████ per month.
2. Notice of Case Action was sent to Petitioner on September 10, 2016, informing her that her FAP benefits would be reduced to ████████ due to shelter deduction change and change in medial deduction. (Dept. Ex.1, pp.3-7)
3. Petitioner requested hearing on September 26, 2016, contesting the reduction in FAP benefits.

4. Petitioner testified that she did not dispute the amounts for income or expenses used by the Department in calculating her FAP benefits.

### **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 Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001-.3011.

Verify allowable medical expenses including the **amount of reimbursement**, at initial application and redetermination. Verify reported changes in the source or amount of medical expenses if the change would result in an increase in benefits.

Do not verify other factors, unless questionable. Other factors include things like the allowability of the service or the eligibility of the person incurring the cost. BEM 554

In this case, Petitioner's FAP benefits were reduced from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] because her shelter deduction changed, her medical deduction was reduced and new earned income was budgeted. Petitioner did not dispute the amounts used by the Department in determining her FAP benefits. Petitioner has [REDACTED] in net income after deductions and a FAP group with 3 people with that amount of income receives [REDACTED] in FAP benefits. This was the amount determined by the Department and it was proper and correct. RFT 260 The removal of Petitioner's medical expense deduction was proper and correct because Petitioner had not provided verified medical expenses for several years. BEM 554

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

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 FAP benefits.

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

  


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**Aaron McClintic**  
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

