



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

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

SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]

Date Mailed: December 29, 2016
MAHS Docket No.: 16-017553
Agency No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

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 December 20, 2016, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by herself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Hearing Facilitator. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-20 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 \$ [REDACTED] per month.
2. On July 28, 2016, Petitioner's FAP benefits were reduced to \$ [REDACTED] per month effective September 1, 2016, after an increase in unearned income.
3. Petitioner testified at hearing that she did not receive the \$ [REDACTED] FAP allotment the Department told her she was entitled to.
4. On November 17, 2016, Petitioner requested hearing regarding 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.

WHEN TO COMPLETE A BUDGET FIP, SDA, RAP, and FAP

Client reporting requirements do not necessarily affect when a budget must be completed.

Complete a budget when either:

- The department is made aware of or the client reports a change in income that will affect eligibility or benefit level. BEM 505 (July 2016)

In this case, Petitioner did not dispute the reduction in her FAP benefits or the income amounts used in determining her benefits. It was proper and correct for the Department to complete a new budget because of the change in Petitioner's unearned income. BEM 505. Petitioner questioned at hearing whether she received the FAP allotment she was entitled to, believing that she only received \$ [REDACTED] instead of \$ [REDACTED]. The Department representative credibly testified that the EBT history showed that Petitioner received her full \$ [REDACTED] allotment for the months in question.

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 did act in accordance with Department policy when it determined Petitioner's FAP benefits.

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

AM/mc



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

DHHS

[REDACTED]

Petitioner

[REDACTED]