



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: May 4, 2016
MAHS Docket No.: 16-003185
Agency No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Kevin Scully

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. After due notice, telephone hearing was held on April 26, 2016, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Petitioner included [REDACTED] and his wife [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] (Lead Worker) represented the Department of Health and Human Services (Department).

ISSUE

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly deny Medical Assistance (MA)?

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 January 20, 2016, the Department received the Petitioner's application for Medical Assistance (MA). Exhibit A, pp 24 – 31.
2. The Petitioner receives monthly Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) in the gross monthly amount of \$ [REDACTED] Exhibit A, pp 10 – 12.
3. The Petitioner's wife receives monthly Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) in the gross monthly amount of \$ [REDACTED] Exhibit A, pp 13 – 15.

4. On February 26, 2016, the Department notified the Petitioner that he was approved for Medical Assistance (MA) with a \$ [REDACTED] monthly deductible but that his wife was not eligible. Exhibit A, pp 3 – 9.
5. The gross income limit to receive “full” Medical Assistance (MA) benefits for a married couple is \$ [REDACTED] per month. Department of Health and Human Services Reference Table Manual (RFT) 242 (April 1, 2016), p 1.
6. On March 14, 2016, the Department sent the Petitioner a Verification Checklist (DHS-3503) requesting verification of income by March 24, 2016. Exhibit A, pp 18 – 20.
7. On March 4, 2016, the Department received the Petitioner’s request for a hearing protesting the denial of Medical Assistance (MA). Exhibit A, p 2.
8. The Department’s representative testified that the Petitioner’s countable income may not have been determined properly and that the Department had already initiated a redetermination of that income.

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.

Medical Assistance (MA) is not available under the Health Michigan Plan (HMP) to individuals that are eligible for Medicare benefits. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 137 (January 1, 2016), p 1.

On January 20, 2016, the Department received the Petitioner’s application for MA benefits. The Department approved the Petitioner for MA benefits with a \$ [REDACTED] monthly deductible, but denied his wife based on their countable income.

The Department’s representative testified that the Petitioner’s countable income may not have been properly determined but that a redetermination of that income was in progress.

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 not act in accordance with Department policy when it determined the eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA) for the Petitioner and his wife.

DECISION AND ORDER

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

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

Initiate a determination of the Petitioner's eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA) as of January 1, 2016, in accordance with policy with adequate notice to the Petitioner.

KS/las



Kevin Scully
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]

[REDACTED]

Petitioner

[REDACTED]