



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: March 20, 2017
MAHS Docket No.: 17-001097
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 February 23, 2017, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner represented herself and [REDACTED] testified on her behalf. The Department was represented by [REDACTED] Hearing Facilitator.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly determine Petitioner's eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA) 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. On December 16, 2016, the Department notified Petitioner that her Medical Assistance (MA) benefits would close effective January 1, 2017. Exhibit A, p 2.
2. On January 1, 2017, the Department notified Petitioner that she was eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) effective January 1, 2017. Exhibit A, p 5.
3. On January 13, 2017, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing.

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.

Clients have the right to contest a department decision affecting eligibility or benefit levels whenever it is believed that the decision is incorrect. The Department will provide an administrative hearing to review the decision and determine the appropriateness. The Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS) may grant a hearing for any of the following:

- Denial of an application and/or supplemental payments.
- Reduction in the amount of program benefits or service.
- Suspension or termination of program benefits or service.
- Restrictions under which benefits or services are provided.
- Delay of any action beyond standards of promptness.
- For FAP only, the current level of benefits or denial of expedited service. Department of Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 600 (October 1, 2015), pp 3-4.

A request for hearing must be in writing and signed by the claimant, petitioner, or authorized representative. Rule 400.904(1). Moreover, the Department of Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 600 (October 1, 2015), p. 6, provides in relevant part as follows:

The client or authorized hearing representative has 90 calendar days from the date of the written notice of case action to request a hearing. The request must be received anywhere in DHS within the 90 days.

Reinstatement restores a closed program to active status without completion of a new application. Closed programs may be rein-stated for any of the following reasons:

- Closed in error.
- Closed-correct information not entered.
- Timely hearing request.

- Redetermination packet not logged in.
- Hearing decision ordered reinstatement.
- Complied with program requirements before negative action date.
- DHS-1046 manually sent and due date is after the last day of the 6th month.
- Court ordered reinstatement. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 205 (July 1, 2016), p 1.

On December 16, 2016, the Department notified Petitioner that it would close her MA benefits effective January 1, 2017. Later the Department would reconsider this closure, and notified Petitioner that she was eligible for MA benefits effective January 1, 2017.

Petitioner argued that it did not appear that she had active benefits starting in January of 2017 based on the deductions from her social security benefits.

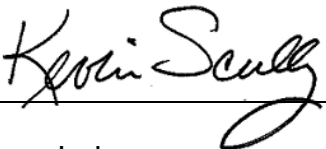
However, despite the fact that Petitioner was approved effective January 1, 2017, the Department's buy-in unit cannot effectively approve her benefits that quickly. The Department has been approved for benefits effective January 1, 2017, and will be reimbursed as soon as the buy-in unit is able to do so. Any medical expenses incurred while eligible for MA benefits should be resubmitted by the medical service provider.

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 reinstated Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) benefits effective January 1, 2017.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/nr



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]

Petitioner

[REDACTED]