



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM

SHELLY EDGERTON  
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]

Date Mailed: September 22, 2017  
MAHS Docket No.: 17-009768  
Agency No.: [REDACTED]  
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Ellen McLemore**

**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; 42 CFR 438.400 to 438.424; 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 September 20, 2017, from Detroit, Michigan. Petitioner was present and represented herself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Sonya McVay, Eligibility Specialist.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner's application for State Emergency Relief (SER) for assistance with non-heat electric?

**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 [REDACTED], 2017, Petitioner submitted an application for SER for assistance with her non-heat electric costs (Exhibit B, pp. 1-5).
2. On July 3, 2017, Petitioner was sent a State Emergency Relief Decision Notice notifying her that her request for assistance was denied.

**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 State Emergency Relief (SER) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The SER program is administered by the Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.7001-.7049.

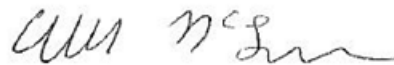
Low-income households who meet all State Emergency Relief (SER) eligibility requirements may receive assistance for energy related services to help them with household heat and electric costs. ERM 301 (February 2017), p. 1. For energy related emergencies, the SER crisis season runs from November 1 through May 31. Requests for those services will be denied June 1 through October 31. ERM 301, p. 1.

On [REDACTED], 2017, Petitioner submitted an application for SER for assistance with non-heat electric costs. On July 3, 2017, the Department sent Petitioner a State Emergency Relief Decision Notice informing her that her request for assistance was denied because her application was not made during the crisis season. As Petitioner's application for SER regarding her energy-related emergency was made outside of the crisis season, the Department properly followed policy when it denied the application for SER benefits.

### **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 denied Petitioner's application for SER benefits related to her non-heat electric costs.

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



EM/jaf

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**Ellen McLemore**  
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**

MDHHS-Wayne-57-Hearings

**Petitioner**



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T Bair  
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MAHS