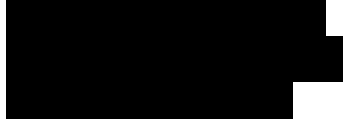




RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

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

SHELLY EDGERTON  
DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: December 12, 2017  
MAHS Docket No.: 17-013898  
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 December 11, 2017, from Detroit, Michigan. Petitioner was present and represented herself. Petitioner was also present with her son, [REDACTED]. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Kathleen Scorpio-Butina.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner's application for State Emergency Relief (SER) application?

**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 a request for SER benefits for non-energy repairs to her home.
2. On September 29, 2017, the Department sent Petitioner a State Emergency Relief Decision Notice informing Petitioner that her request for SER benefits was denied.
3. On October 19, 2017, Petitioner submitted a request for hearing disputing the Department's actions.

## **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.

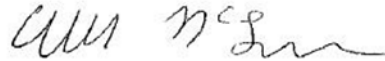
In this case, Petitioner submitted an application for SER benefits for repairs to her home on [REDACTED], 2017. Petitioner requested \$8,950 in SER benefits for non-energy repairs to her roof.

SER benefits assist with home repairs to correct unsafe conditions and restore essential services. ERM 304 (October 2015), p. 1. Non-energy-related repairs include all home repairs for client-owned housing except furnace repair or replacement. ERM 304, p. 3. Authorization for payment is only made if the repair(s) is essential to remove a direct threat to health or safety or is required by law or a mobile home park regulation. ERM 304, p. 3. The repair(s) must restore the home to a safe, livable condition. ERM 304, p. 3. SER does not pay for improvements or nonessential repairs. ERM 304, p. 3. The lifetime maximum for non-energy-related home repairs is \$1,500 per SER group. ERM 304, p. 3. For repairs to the home, the Department must obtain at least one estimate of the repair cost. ERM 304, p. 5. More may be requested, depending on case circumstances. ERM 304, p. 5.

Petitioner's request for SER benefits was denied in the notice issued September 29, 2017. Petitioner's application was denied because Petitioner had exceeded the \$1,500 lifetime maximum. Petitioner had received \$1,500 for non-energy home repairs in 2007. The Department presented a summary to show Petitioner had received \$1,500 in non-energy home repairs (Exhibit B). As Petitioner had already met the lifetime maximum for non-energy home repairs, the Department acted in accordance with policy when it denied Petitioner's SER application.

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



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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-Macomb-20-Hearings

**Petitioner**



BSC4  
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