

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS LANSING

SHELLY EDGERTON DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: September 7, 2018 MAHS Docket No.: 18-006702

Agency No.:
Petitioner:

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, a telephone hearing was held on August 8, 2018, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner was represented by her authorized hearing representative, and Petitioner testified on her own behalf. The Department of Health and Human Services was represented by Anthony Couls and Christina Williams.

<u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly determine Petitioner's eligibility for 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. Petitioner is an ongoing recipient of Medical Assistance (MA) benefits.
- 2. Petitioner receives monthly Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) in the gross monthly amount of \$ Exhibit A, p 10.
- 3. On November 15, 2017, the Department notified Petitioner that she was approved for Medical Assistance (MA) effective December 1, 2017, with a \$795 monthly deductible, and she is eligible for the Medicare Savings Program (MSP). Exhibit A, pp 6-9.
- 4. On June 15, 2018, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting her level of Medical Assistance (MA) benefits. Exhibit A, pp 2-4.

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.

Persons may qualify under more than one MA category. Federal law gives them the right to the most beneficial category. The most beneficial category is the one that results in eligibility or the least amount of excess income. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 105 (April 1, 2017), p 2.

Petitioner is an ongoing recipient of MA benefits and she is eligible for Medicare, which makes her ineligible for the Health Michigan Program (HMP).

Since Petitioner's monthly income exceeds 100% of the federal poverty level, Petitioner is not eligible for "full" Medicaid under the AD-CARE category. Department of Health and Human Services Reference Table Manual (RFT) 242 (April 1, 2018), p 1.

A review of Petitioner's case reveals that the Department budgeted correct amount of income received by Petitioner. Petitioner's "protected income level" is \$375, and this amount cannot be changed either by the Department or by this Administrative Law Judge. Department of Human Services Reference Table Manual (RFT) 240 (December 1, 2013), p 1. The Department's determination that Petitioner has a \$795 deductible per month she must meet in order to qualify for MA for any medical expenses above is therefore correct.

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 determined Petitioner's eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA) in the most beneficial category available based on her circumstances.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/hb

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) 763-0155; 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

Jeanenne Broadnax 25637 Ecorse Rd. Taylor, MI 48180

Wayne County (District 18), DHHS

BSC4 via electronic mail

D. Smith via electronic mail

EQADHShearings via electronic mail

Petitioner

