



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

SHELLY EDGERTON  
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED], MI [REDACTED]

Date Mailed: December 19, 2018  
MAHS Docket No.: 18-010307  
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, a telephone hearing was held on November 28, 2018, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself. The Department of Health and Human Services was represented by Valarie Foley.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly denied Petitioner's application for cash assistance?

**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] [REDACTED] the Department received Petitioner's Assistance Application. Exhibit A, pp 4-10.
2. Petitioner reported to the Department on her September [REDACTED] 2018, application form that she has \$ [REDACTED] of available cash assets. Exhibit A, p 8.
3. On September 10, 2018, the Department notified Petitioner that she was not eligible for cash assistance. Exhibit A, pp 13-14.
4. On [REDACTED] [REDACTED] the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the denial of her application for cash assistance. Exhibit A, pp 2-3.

## 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 Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FIP pursuant to 45 CFR 233-260, MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101-.3131.

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The Department of Health and Human Services (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers the SDA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3151-.3180.

Assets means cash, any other personal property and real property. Real property is land and objects affixed to the land such as buildings, trees and fences. Condominiums are real property. Personal property is any item subject to ownership that is not real property. Countable assets cannot exceed the applicable asset limit. An asset is countable if it meets the availability tests and is not excluded. Available means that someone in the asset group has the legal right to use or dispose of the asset. Department of Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 400 (January 1, 2018), pp 1-7.

The asset limit to receive cash assistance (FIP or SDA) is \$3,000. BEM 400, p 5.

On [REDACTED] [REDACTED] the Department received Petitioner's application for cash assistance. Petitioner reported having available cash assets totaling \$[REDACTED] on her application form. Based on Petitioner's own statements, the Department denied Petitioner's application for cash assistance because her countable assets exceed the limit to receive any type of cash assistance.

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 cash assistance based on her reported cash assets.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/hb

  
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**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**

Susan Noel  
26355 Michigan Ave.  
Inkster, MI 48141

Wayne County (District 19), DHHS

BSC4 via electronic mail

B. Cabanaw via electronic mail

G. Vail via electronic mail

**Petitioner**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], MI [REDACTED]