GRETCHEN WHITMER GOVERNOR

# STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: May 30, 2019 MOAHR Docket No.: 19-004239

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, telephone hearing was held on May 23, 2019, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself. The Department was represented by Susan Counts-Lowe and Dorthy Boyd.

# **ISSUE**

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly determine Petitioner's eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA) and Food Assistance Program (FAP) 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 January 2, 2019, the Department sent Petitioner a Notice of Missed Interview (DHS-254) instructing her that her benefits would close as of January 31, 2019, if she did not reschedule an interview that was missed. Exhibit A, p 4.
- 2. Petitioner has been an ongoing Food Assistance Program (FAP) recipient since December 1, 2018. Exhibit A, p 5.
- 3. On April 24, 2019, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the closure of her Medical Assistance (MA) and Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits in January. 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 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.

To be automatically eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient must be a Michigan resident and cooperate with third-party resource liability requirements. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 150 (April 1, 2017), p 1.

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a, and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001-.3011.

Clients must cooperate with the local office in determining initial and ongoing eligibility and this includes the completion of necessary forms. Department of Human Services Bridges Assistance Manual (BAM) 105 (January 1, 2019), p 8.

Reinstatement restores a closed program to active status without completion of a new application. Closed programs may be reinstated for complying with program requirements. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 205 (January 1, 2018), p 1.

Petition is an ongoing MA and FAP recipient whose benefits were closed by the Department. As of the hearing date, Petitioner has met all eligibility requirements for MA and FAP benefits and the Department has issued a supplement for any benefits that may have been missed since December 1, 2018.

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) and Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/dh

Kevin Scully

Administrative Law Judge

for Robert Gordon, 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 Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Order if the request is received by MOAHR 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. MOAHR will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration.

A written request may be mailed or faxed to MOAHR. If submitted by fax, the written request must be faxed to (517) 763-0155; Attention: MOAHR 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** 

Richard Latimore 4733 Conner Detroit, MI 48215

Wayne County (District 57), DHHS

BSC4 via electronic mail

EQAD via electronic mail

D. Smith via electronic mail

M. Holden via electronic mail

D. Sweeney via electronic mail

Petitioner

