



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

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

SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: March 7, 2018
MAHS Docket No.: 18-000427
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 March 1, 2018, from Detroit, Michigan. Petitioner was present and represented herself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Susan Engel, Hearing Facilitator.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly close Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) benefit case?

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 was an ongoing recipient of MA benefits.
2. On November 17, 2017, Petitioner submitted a redetermination regarding her MA benefit case (Exhibit B).
3. On December 15, 2017, the Department sent Petitioner a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice informing her that her MA benefit case was closing effective January 1, 2018, ongoing.
4. On January 4, 2018, 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 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.

In this case, the Department sent Petitioner a redetermination form on November 4, 2017. The paperwork was due on December 4, 2017. The Department sent Petitioner a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice on December 15, 2017, informing her that her MA benefit case was closing effective January 1, 2018, ongoing, for her failure to return the redetermination paperwork.

The Department must periodically redetermine or renew an individual's eligibility for active programs. BAM 210 (October 2017), p. 1. Redetermination, renewal, semi-annual and mid-certification forms are often used to redetermine eligibility of active programs. BAM 210, p. 1. For MA cases, a redetermination is an eligibility review based on a reported change and a renewal is the full review of eligibility factors completed annually. BAM 210, p. 1. The DHS-1010 redetermination form is generated and sent to the client at the time of an annual renewal. BEM 105 (April 2017), p. 3. Benefits stop at the end of the benefit period unless a renewal is completed, and a new benefit period is certified. BAM 210, p. 3.

The Department testified that Petitioner timely submitted her redetermination paperwork on November 17, 2017. The Department stated that the redetermination paperwork was not logged into the system. The Department conceded that Petitioner's MA benefit case was closed in error. Therefore, the Department did not act in accordance with policy when it closed Petitioner's MA benefit case.

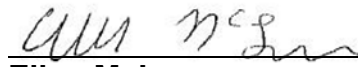
DECISION AND ORDER

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 did not act in accordance with Department policy when it closed Petitioner's MA benefit case. Accordingly, the Department's decision is **REVERSED**.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

1. Redetermination Petitioner's MA eligibility as of January 1, 2018, ongoing;
2. Provide Petitioner with MA coverage she is entitled to receive for January 1, 2018, ongoing;
3. Notify Petitioner of its MA decision in writing.

EM/cg



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

Via Email:

MDHHS-Saginaw-Hearings
M. Best
EQAD
BSC2-Hearing Decisions
MAHS

Petitioner – Via First-Class Mail:

