GRETCHEN WHITMER GOVERNOR STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: August 18, 2020 MOAHR Docket No.: 20-004294 Agency No.: Petitioner:

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Aaron McClintic

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 August 12, 2020, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner did not appear and the hearing was held in her absence. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Ms. Smalley, Recoupment Specialist. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-161 was received and admitted.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly determine that Petitioner received an overissuance of 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. Petitioner applied for and received FAP benefits from the Department.
- 2. The Department failed to correctly budget social security income.
- 3. The Department alleges Petitioner received a FAP OI during the period October 1, 2019, through May 31, 2020, due to **Department** error.
- 4. The Department alleges that Petitioner received \$1,860 OI that is still due and owing to the Department.

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), and Department of Health and Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

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 to .3015.

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.

OVERISSUANCE AMOUNT FIP, SDA, CDC and FAP

The amount of the overissuance is the benefit amount the group or provider actually received minus the amount the group was eligible to receive. BAM 715

FIP, SDA, CDC and FAP

Agency error overissuances are not pursued if the estimated amount is less than \$250 per program. BAM 705

Additionally, the Department provided sufficient proof that Petitioner received an overissuance of FAP benefits totaling \$1,860. The Department failed to correctly budget a household member's social security income. Department policy requires that overissuances over \$250 be recouped if they are due to Department error. BAM 705 This was the action taken by the Department and it was proper and correct. The Department's determination of overissuance was proper and correct and consistent with Department policy.

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, finds that the Department **did** establish a FAP benefit OI to Respondent totaling \$1,860.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department is AFFIRMED.

The Department is ORDERED to initiate collection procedures for a \$1,860 OI in accordance with Department policy.

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Aaron McClintic 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 Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules Reconsideration/Rehearing Request P.O. Box 30639 Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

DHHS Saginaw County via electronic mail

BSC2 via electronic mail

M. Holden via electronic mail

D. Sweeney via electronic mail

MDHHS-OIG via electronic mail

MDHHS-Recoupment via electronic mail

DHHS Department Rep.

Petitioner

