



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

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██████████, MI ██████████

Date Mailed: March 16, 2021
MOAHR Docket No.: 20-008232
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 February 25, 2021. Petitioner represented himself. The Department was represented by Julie McLaughlin.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly close Petitioner's State Supplemental Security Income (SSP) 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 November 16, 2020, the Department notified Petitioner that he was not eligible for State Supplemental Security Income (SSP) benefits effective November 16, 2020. Exhibit A, pp 8-9.
2. On December 29, 2020, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the closure of his State Supplemental Security Income (SSP) benefits. Exhibit A, pp 5-6.

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 State SSI Payments (SSP) program is established by 20 CFR 416.2001-.2099 and the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1382e. The Department administers the program pursuant to MCL 400.10.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a cash benefit to needy persons who are aged (at least 65), blind or disabled. It is a federal program administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA). States are allowed the option to supplement the federal benefit with state funds. In Michigan SSI benefits include a basic federal benefit and an additional amount paid with state funds. The amount of the state benefit varies by living arrangement. Payments are made for only those months the recipient received a regular first of the month federal benefit. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 660 (October 1, 2020), p 1.


On November 16, 2020, the Department notified Petitioner that he was no longer eligible for SSP benefits effective November 16, 2020. Petitioner does not dispute that he was not receiving federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits in November of 2020. Petitioner is not eligible for SSP benefits issued by the state of Michigan in months that he does not received a federal SSI payment. Petitioner's eligibility for SSP benefits has been restored since he filed his request for a hearing, but he remains ineligible for the SSP payment in months that he did not receive his regular SSI payment.

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 that Petitioner was not eligible for State Supplemental Security Income (SSP) effective November 16, 2020.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/nr



Kevin Scully
Administrative Law Judge
for Elizabeth Hertel, 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

Jackie Stempel
2700 Baker Street
PO Box 4290
Muskegon Heights, MI
49444

Muskegon County DHHS- via electronic
mail

BSC3- via electronic mail

C. George- via electronic mail

EQAD- via electronic mail

Petitioner

██████████ - via first class mail

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██████████, MI

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