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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES
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Date Mailed: September 15, 2023
MOAHR Docket No.: 23-004379
Agency No.: ██████████
Petitioner: ██████████

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 September 13, 2023, via conference line. Petitioner was present and represented himself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Ruby Anderson, Assistance Payments Supervisor and Camellia Brooks, Assistance Payments Supervisor.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner’s Medical Assistance (MA) eligibility?

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 MA recipient.
2. On June 20, 2023, Petitioner completed a redetermination related to his Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefit case (Exhibit A, pp. 23-30), prompting an update to Petitioner’s MA benefit case.
3. Petitioner was a recipient of Medicare Part A.
4. Petitioner lived in ██████████ County.

5. Petitioner had monthly income in the form of Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) in the amount of \$1,307 per month.
6. On June 20, 2023, the Department sent Petitioner a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice informing him that he was approved for MA benefits subject to a monthly deductible of \$912 per month (Exhibit A, pp. 11-15).
7. On July 10, 2023, 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, Petitioner submitted an application for MA benefits. The Department determined Petitioner was qualified for MA benefits under the Group 2-SSI-related (G2S) program, subject to a monthly deductible of \$912.

As a disabled and/or aged individual, Petitioner is potentially eligible to receive MA benefits through AD-Care. Ad-Care is an SSI-related full-coverage MA program. BEM 163 (July 2017), p. 1. It was not disputed that Petitioner received \$1,307 per month in RSDI benefits. As Petitioner was not married, per policy, Petitioner's fiscal group size for SSI-related MA benefits is one. BEM 211 (July 2019), p. 8. The Department gives AD-Care budget credits for employment income, and guardianship and/or conservator expenses. Petitioner did not allege any such factors were applicable. Income eligibility for AD-Care exists when countable income does not exceed the income limit for the program. BEM 163 (July 2022), p. 2. The income limit for AD-Care for a one-person MA group is \$1,235. RFT 242 (April 2022), p. 1. Because Petitioner's monthly household income exceeds \$1,235, the Department properly determined Petitioner to be ineligible for MA benefits under AD-Care.

Petitioner may still receive MA benefits subject to a monthly deductible through a Group 2 Medicaid category. Petitioner is not the caretaker of any minor children, and therefore, does not qualify for MA through the Group 2-Caretaker MA program.

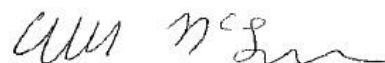
Petitioner may still receive MA benefits subject to a monthly deductible through the G2S program. G2S is an SSI-related MA category. BEM 166 (April 2017), p.1. As stated above, Petitioner's SSI-related MA group size was one. Petitioner's net income was \$1,287 (his gross RSDI reduced by a \$20 disregard). BEM 541 (January 2023), p. 3. The deductible is in the amount that the client's net income (less any allowable needs deductions) exceeds the applicable Group 2 MA protected income levels (PIL); the PIL is based on the client's MA fiscal group size and the county in which he resides. BEM 105, p. 1; BEM 166, pp. 1-2; BEM 544 (January 2020), p. 1; RFT 240 (December 2013), p. 1; RFT 200 (April 2017), p. 2. The monthly PIL for a client in Petitioner's position, with an MA fiscal group size of one living in ██████ County, is \$375 per month. RFT 200, p. 2; RFT 240, p 1. Thus, if Petitioner's monthly net income (less allowable needs deductions) is in excess of \$375, he is eligible for MA assistance under the deductible program, with the deductible equal to the amount that his monthly net income, less allowable deductions, exceeds \$375. BEM 545 (July 2022), pp. 2-3. The Department presented an SSI-related MA budget showing the calculation of Petitioner's deductible (Exhibit A, p. 32).

In determining the monthly deductible, net income is reduced by health insurance premiums paid by the MA group and remedial service allowances for individuals in adult foster care or homes for the aged. BEM 544, pp. 1-3. In this case, there was no evidence that Petitioner resides in an adult foster care home or home for the aged. Therefore, Petitioner is not eligible for any remedial service allowances. Petitioner was not entitled to the COLA exclusion (for January through March only) of \$115. Petitioner was also receiving Medicare Part B. The Department testified that the State of Michigan was paying Petitioner's Medicare Part B premium. Petitioner testified he was not paying for any supplemental insurance. Thus, the Department acted in accordance with policy when it did not include any deductions for insurance. Petitioner's net income of \$1,287 reduced by the \$375 PIL is \$912. Therefore, the Department properly determined that Petitioner is eligible for MA benefits under the G2S program subject to a monthly deductible of \$912.

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 acted in accordance with Department policy when it determined Petitioner's MA eligibility. Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

EM/tm



Ellen McLemore
Administrative Law Judge

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

Via-Electronic Mail :

DHHS
Jeanenne Broadnax
Wayne-Taylor-DHHS
25637 Ecorse Rd.
Taylor, MI 48180
**MDHHS-Wayne-18-
Hearings@michigan.gov**

Interested Parties
M. Schaefer
EQADHearings
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Via-First Class Mail :

Petitioner
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