

STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER GOVERNOR DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES SUZANNE SONNEBORN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARLON I. BROWN, DPA ACTING DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: November 30, 2023 MOAHR Docket No.: 23-006286 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 November 2, 2023, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by himself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Brian Rodema AP Supervisor. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-18 was received and admitted.

## **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner's Medicare Savings Program application due to excess income?

## 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 July 31, 2023, Petitioner applied for Medicare Savings Program.
- 2. On September 13, 2023, Petitioner's Medicare Savings Program application was denied due to excess income.
- 3. On September 25, 2023, Petitioner requested hearing disputing the denial of Medicare Savings Program benefit.
- 4. Petitioner receives in unearned income per month from social security.

#### 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.

#### Income Eligibility

Income eligibility exists when net income is within the limits in RFT 242 or 247. Income eligibility cannot be established with a patient pay amount or by meeting a deductible. Determine countable income according to the SSI-related MA policies in BEM 500, 501, 502, 503, 504 and 530, except as explained in COUNTABLE RSDI in this item. Apply the deductions in BEM 540 (for children) and 541 (for adults) to countable income to determine net income. BEM 165 (October 2022)

In this case, Petitioner receives per month unearned income from social security. After the \$20 unearned income exclusion, Petitioner has to be in net income. The net income limit for the Medicare Savings Program is \$1,640. Therefore, Petitioner is over the income limit and the denial by the Department is proper and correct and consistent with Department policy. BEM 165

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 denied Petitioner's Medicare Savings Program application due to excess income.

#### DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

Aaron McClintic Administrative Law Judge

AM/ml

**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

Kimberly Kornoelje Kent County DHHS 121 Martin Luther King Jr St SE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 **MDHHS-Kent-Hearings@michigan.gov** 

Interested Parties BSC3 M Schaefer EQAD MOAHR

Via First Class Mail:

Authorized Hearing Rep. Ali Dasuqi 7845 Luann St Saginaw, MI 48609

Petitioner

