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

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA ACTING DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: November	7, 2023
MOAHR Docket No.: 23-	-006351
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 November 1, 2023, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself. The Department was represented by Sherri Polk. During the hearing Petitioner disconnected from the conference line and did not call back.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly deny Petitioner's application for 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. On July **■** 2023, the Department received Petitioner's application for Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits as a household of one. Exhibit A, pp 6-7.
- 2. Petitioner reported on her July 2023, application for assistance that she was employed and expected to work 40 hours per week at a rate of \$ per house. Exhibit a, p 9.
- 3. Petitioner received earned income in the gross bi-weekly amount of \$ _____ on June ____ 2023, \$ _____ on June ____ 2023, \$ _____ on June ____ 2023. Exhibit A, p 22.
- 4. On September 28, 2023, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the denial of Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits. Exhibit A, pp 4-5.

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 Food Assistance Program (FAP) is funded under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, 7 USC 2011 through 7 USC 2036a. It is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10 of the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1 *et seq*, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 through 400.3011.

All earned and unearned income available is countable unless excluded by policy. Earned income means income received from another person or organization or from self-employment for duties for duties that were performed for compensation or profit. Unearned income means all income that is not earned income. The amount counted may be more than the client actually receives because the gross amount is used prior to any deductions. Department of Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 500 (April 1, 2022), pp 1-17.

All income is converted to a standard monthly amount. If the client is paid weekly, the Department multiplies the average weekly amount by 4.3. If the client is paid every other week, the Department multiplies the average bi-weekly amount by 2.15. Department of Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 505 (October 1, 2023), pp 7-8.

Petitioner applied for FAP benefits on July 2023, as a household of one. Petitioner reported on her application for assistance that she was employed and expected to work 40 hours per week at a rate of **Sector** per hour. The income Petitioner reported on her application would produce a prospective gross monthly income of **Sector** as directed by BEM 505. Petitioner's actual income in June was **Sector** and using her average bi-weekly paycheck in June would produce a prospective gross monthly income of **Sector** The gross income limit for a household of one to be eligible for any FAP benefits is \$1,473. Department of Health and Human Services Reference Table Manual (RFT) 250 (October 1, 2022), p 1.

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 application for Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/dm

Kevin Scully Administrative Law Judge Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR)

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 Jamie Dent Grand Traverse/Leelanau County DHHS MDHHS-GrandTraverse-Hearings@michigan.gov

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Via-First Class Mail :

Petitioner