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GOVERNOR

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

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: April 3, 2024 MOAHR Docket No.: 24-001150

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 April 2, 2024, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself. The Department was represented by Desiree Mitchell and Latisha Williams-Maduako.

## **ISSUE**

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly determine Petitioner's eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA)?

#### 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 is an ongoing recipient of Medical Assistance (MA) at times relevant to this hearing.
- 2. On December 2023, the Department received Petitioner's Renew Benefits form where she reported that she lives with lives with her four children and claims three of the children as tax dependents. Exhibit A, pp 10-15.
- 3. On January 2024, the Department notified Petitioner that she was not eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) effective March 1, 2024. Exhibit A, p 5.
- 4. On February 2, 2024, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing. Exhibit A, p 3.

## **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 through 42 USC 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 through 42 CFR 420.25. The Department administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.103 through MCL 400.112k of the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1 *et seq.* 

The income limit to participate in the Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) is 133% of the federal poverty level. Department of Health and Human Services Reference Table Manual (RFT) 246 (April 1, 2014), p 1.

The size of the household will be determined by the principles of tax dependency in the majority of cases. The household for a tax filer, who is not claimed as a tax dependent, consists of the individual and tax dependents. The household for an individual who is a tax dependent of someone else consists of the household of the tax filer claiming the individual as a tax dependent if the individual is under the age of 19.

The Department determined that Petitioner was no longer eligible for MA benefits under the Healthy Michigan Program (HMP) based on her household income. The Department conceded that Petitioner's household may have not been property determined.

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 did not act in accordance with Department policy when it determined that Petitioner was no longer eligible for the Healthy Michigan Program (HMP).

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is REVERSED.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

- 1. Initiate a determination of the Petitioner's eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA) as of March 1, 2024.
- 2. Provide the Petitioner with written notice describing the Department's revised eligibility determination.
- 3. Issue the Petitioner any retroactive benefits she may be eligible to receive, if any.

KS/dm

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 <u>Via-Electronic Mail :</u> DHHS

Trista Waishkey Washtenaw County DHHS MDHHS-Washtenaw-Hearings@michigan.gov

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**MOAHR** 

<u>Via-First Class Mail :</u> Petitioner