GRETCHEN WHITMER GOVERNOR STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES SUZANNE SONNEBORN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA DIRECTOR

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Date Mailed: July 24, 2024
MOAHR Docket No.: 24-004877
Agency No.:
Petitioner:

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Linda Jordan

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 hearing was held on June 26, 2024, via teleconference. Petitioner appeared and represented himself. Priya Johnson, Assistance Payments Supervisor, appeared on behalf of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department). MDHHS' Hearing Packet was admitted at the hearing as MDHHS Exhibit A, pp. 1-17.

ISSUE

Did MDHHS properly terminate Petitioner's Medicaid (MA) coverage?

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 recipient of MA coverage.
- 2. On February 5, 2024, MDHHS sent Petitioner a Redetermination for MA, which had a deadline of March 6, 2024. Petitioner did not submit the Redetermination form prior to the deadline.
- 3. On April 19, 2024, MDHHS sent Petitioner a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice indicating that he was ineligible for MA, effective May 1, 2024 ongoing (Exhibit A, p. 15).
- 4. On April 25, 2024, Petitioner requested a hearing regarding the MA closure (Exhibit A, pp. 3-5).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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).

Medicaid (MA) 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. MDHHS administers pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.105-.112k. MA is also known as Medical Assistance. BEM 105 (January 2024), p. 1.

In this case, MDHHS terminated Petitioner's coverage because he failed to return the Redetermination Packet prior to the deadline to renew his benefits for MA.

MDHHS must periodically redetermine or renew an individual's eligibility for active programs. BAM 210 (October 2023), p. 1. The redetermination/renewal process includes a thorough review of all eligibility factors. *Id.* For MA, a redetermination is an eligibility review based on a reported change. *Id.* A renewal is the full review of eligibility factors completed annually. *Id.* MA Benefits stop at the end of the benefit period unless a renewal is completed, and a new benefit period is certified. *Id.*, p. 4. The renewal month is 12 months from the date the most recent complete application was submitted. *Id.* A redetermination packet is considered complete when all the sections of the redetermination form, including the signature section, are completed. *Id.*, p. 12.

MDHHS credibly testified that it did not receive Petitioner's Redetermination Packet for MA prior to the deadline. Petitioner acknowledged that he did not submit it to MDHHS prior to the deadline. No evidence was presented that Petitioner attempted to contact MDHHS to request assistance or an extension. After the deadline had passed, MDHHS properly terminated Petitioner's MA coverage, because MA benefits stop at the end of the benefit period unless a new benefit period is certified. BAM 210, p. 4. Petitioner was advised that he could reapply for MA coverage, including retroactive MA coverage, at any time.

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 terminated Petitioner's MA coverage.

DECISION AND ORDER

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

LJ/pt

ordon Jordan

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

Yaita Turner Oakland County Southfield Disctrict III 25620 W. 8 Mile Rd Southfield, MI 48033 **MDHHS-Oakland-6303-Hearings@michigan.gov**

Interested Parties

BSC4 M. Schaefer EQAD MOAHR

Via-First Class Mail:

Petitioner

