



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR

Date Mailed: [REDACTED]  
MOAHR Docket No.: 22-000600  
Agency No.: [REDACTED]  
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Amanda M. T. Marler**

### **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 March 21, 2022. The Petitioner was self-represented. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Corlette Brown, Hearings Facilitator, and Doris Reynolds, Assistance Payments Supervisor.

### **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) Program 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. On [REDACTED] 2021, the Department received Petitioner's application for MA benefits indicating she was [REDACTED] years old.
2. At the time of her application, Petitioner was receiving \$ [REDACTED] in Retirement Survivors Disability Insurance (RSDI) benefits per month.
3. Petitioner is eligible for Medicare Part A and B as of [REDACTED] 2013.
4. On December 16, 2021, the Department issued a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice (HCCDN) to Petitioner advising her that she was eligible for MA benefits with a deductible of \$ [REDACTED] for November and December 2021.

5. On [REDACTED] 2022, the Department received Petitioner's request for hearing disputing her placement in an MA deductible program and seeking to be placed in a full coverage MA program.

### **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 applied for MA benefits and was placed in the Group 2-Aged, Blind, Disabled MA category. Medicaid (also known as MA) is available (i) under Supplemental Security Income (SSI)-related categories to individuals who are aged (65 or older), blind or disabled, (ii) to individuals who are under age 19, parents or caretakers of children, or pregnant or recently pregnant women, and (iii) to individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) coverage. BEM 105 (January 2021), p. 1.

Petitioner is not under age 21 or pregnant. No evidence was presented that Petitioner was a parent or caretaker of a minor child, or former foster child. Therefore, the programs for each of these groups are inapplicable to the Petitioner.

HMP provides MA coverage to individuals who (i) are 19 to 64 years of age; (ii) have income at or below 133% of the federal poverty level (FPL) under the Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) methodology; (iii) do not qualify for or are not enrolled in Medicare; (iv) do not qualify for or are not enrolled in other MA programs; (v) are not pregnant at the time of application; and (vi) are residents of the State of Michigan. BEM 137 (June 2020), p. 1; MPM, Healthy Michigan Plan, § 1.1. Since Petitioner is eligible for Medicare, she is not eligible for HMP.

In determining the SSI-related MA category Petitioner is eligible to receive, the Department must determine Petitioner's MA fiscal group size and net income. Petitioner has a group size for SSI-related MA purposes of one because she is not married. BEM 211 (July 2019), p. 8. Petitioner's total gross monthly income is \$ [REDACTED]

The Ad-Care program, an SSI-related MA category, requires that net group income cannot exceed one hundred percent of the federal poverty level plus \$20.00. BEM 163, pp. 1-2. The 2020 federal poverty level for a one-person household was \$12,880.00 annually or \$1,073.33 per month. <https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-federal-register-references/2021-poverty-guidelines>. The net income limit is established adding \$20.00 to the FPL as seen in RFT 242, \$1,094.00 for a group size of one effective April 1, 2021. RFT 242 (November 2021), p. 1. Countable income is calculated by adding the amounts of income actually received or reasonably anticipated within the month. BEM 530 (April 2020), p. 2. Since Petitioner has gross income of \$ [REDACTED] \$20.00 is subtracted for the general exclusion and Petitioner's Net Income is \$ [REDACTED] BEM 541 (January 2021), p. 3. Therefore, Petitioner's Net Income is greater than the net income limit and the FPL. Petitioner is not eligible for the full coverage Ad-Care program.

Since Petitioner has excess income for eligibility under the Ad-Care program, the full coverage SSI-related MA program, an evaluation of Petitioner's eligibility for MA coverage under the Group 2 program follows. Group 2 provides MA coverage with a deductible. BEM 105, p. 1.

The deductible is the amount that the client's net income (less any allowable deductions) exceeds the applicable Group 2 MA protected income level (PIL). PIL is a set allowance for non-medical need items such as shelter, food, and incidental expenses. BEM 544 (January 2020), p. 1. It is based on the client's MA fiscal group size and the county in which the client resides. *Id.* Petitioner resides in [REDACTED] County and has a group size of one; therefore, she is in shelter area VI, and her PIL is \$ [REDACTED] RFT 200 (April 2017), p. 3; RFT 240 (December 2013), p. 1. Thus, if Petitioner's monthly net income (less allowable needs deductions) is in excess of \$375.00, Petitioner is eligible for MA assistance under the G2S program with a deductible equal to the amount of income remaining after the appropriate and allowed deductions which is greater than \$375.00.

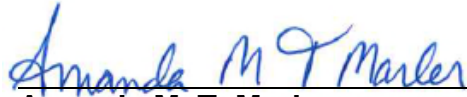
As discussed above, Petitioner's net income was \$ [REDACTED] In calculating the deductible, allowances are made for health insurance premiums and remedial services. BEM 544, pp. 1-2. No evidence was presented that Petitioner had any of these additional expenses. Therefore, Petitioner's PIL is subtracted to reach a deductible of \$ [REDACTED]

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 Medical Assistance (MA) Program eligibility with a deductible of \$ [REDACTED] effective November 1, 2021.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

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

AMTM/cc



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**Amanda M. T. Marler**  
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 Email:**

MDHHS-Wayne-31-Grandmont-Hearings  
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**Petitioner- Via USPS:**

