

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



Date Mailed: March 12, 2024 MOAHR Docket No.: 23-009819 Agency No.:

# 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 February 14, 2024, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by himself. **Served as Arabic language interpreter.** The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Sunshine Simonson Eligibility Specialist. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-37.

## ISSUE

Did the Department properly close Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) case for failing to verify household 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 August 2, 2023, Petitioner submitted MA redetermination paperwork.
- 2. On September 22, 2023, a Verification Checklist was sent to Petitioner with an October 2, 2023, due date requesting verification of self-employment income.
- 3. On September 29, 2023, Petitioner submitted self-employment income verifications for himself.
- 4. Self-employment income verifications for household member **exercises** were not received prior to the deadline.

- 5. On October 6, 2023, a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice was sent to Petitioner informing him that his MA was closing effective November 1, 2023, for failing to verify self-employment income.
- 6. On December 20, 2023, Petitioner requested a hearing disputing the closure of MA.

#### 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.

#### Medicaid

Allow the client 10 calendar days (or other time limit specified in policy) to provide the verification requested. Refer to policy in this item for citizenship verifications. If the client cannot provide the verification despite a reasonable effort, extend the time limit up to two times. At renewal if an individual is required to return a pre-populated renewal form, allow 30 calendar days for the form to be returned. At application, renewal, ex parte review, or other change, explain to the client/authorized representative the availability of your assistance in obtaining needed information. Extension may be granted when the following exists:

- The customer/authorized representative need to make the request. An extension should not automatically be given.
- The need for the extension and the reasonable efforts taken to obtain the verifications are documented.
- Every effort by the department was made to assist the client in obtaining verifications. Verifications are considered to be timely if received by the date they are due. For electronically transmitted verifications (fax, email or MI Bridges document upload), the date of the transmission is the receipt date. Verifications that are submitted after the close of regular business hours through the drop box or by delivery of a MDHHS representative are considered to be received the next business day. Send a case action notice when:
- The client indicates refusal to provide a verification, or
- The time period given has elapsed. BAM 130

In this case, on September 22, 2023, a Verification Checklist was sent to Petitioner requesting verification of self-employment income. Self-employment income information for was provided on September 29, 2023, but no information was received by the Department for household member **Exercise** prior to the deadline on the verification checklist. Policy dictates if verifications are not submitted prior to the deadline on the verification checklist then the case is processed for closure. BAM 130 This was the action taken by the Department and it was proper and correct and consistent with Department policy.

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 closed Petitioner's MA case for failing to verify self-employment income for household member

#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

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

AMTM/cc

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Aaron McClintic 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 :

### **Interested Parties**

MDHHS-Wayne-17-hearings BSC4-HearingDecisions EQADHearings M. Schaefer MOAHR

Via-First Class Mail :

Petitioner

