



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

MARLON BROWN
DIRECTOR

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Date Mailed: May 16, 2024
MOAHR Docket No.: 24-004124
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 May 15, 2024, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner represented herself and ██████████ testified on her behalf. The Department was represented by Priya Johnson.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly determine Petitioner's eligibility for the Food Assistance Program (FAP)?

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's Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits certification period was ending on January ██████ 2024, and the Department received her completed Renew Benefits form on December ██████ 2023.
2. On March ██████ 2024, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing.
3. On April ██████ 2024, the Department notified Petitioner that she was eligible for a \$█████ monthly allotment of Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits effective February 1, 2024.

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.

The Department must periodically redetermine or renew an individual's eligibility for active programs. If this redetermination of eligibility for FAP benefits is not completed by the end of the certification period, benefits close without further notice. BAM 210.

In this case, Petitioner was an ongoing FAP recipient when the Department initiated a routine review of her eligibility for ongoing benefits. Petitioner's certification period was set to end on January █ 2024, and the Department received her timely Renew Benefits form on December █ 2023.

However, due to Department error, Petitioner's Renew Benefits form was not properly processed and Petitioner's FAP benefits lapsed. After discovering the misprocessed Renew Benefits form, the Department failed to properly document Petitioner's ongoing medical expenses for her Medicare supplemental coverage premiums. This error was also corrected, but before a reduced allotment of FAP benefits has been granted for February of 2024.

The Department concedes that Petitioner did not receive the correct allotment of FAP benefits in February of 2024.

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 Petitioner's eligibility for the Food Assistance Program (FAP).

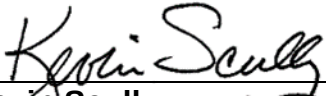
DECISION AND ORDER

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 the Food Assistance Program (FAP) effective February 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



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
Yaita Turner
Oakland County Southfield District III
MDHHS-Oakland-6303-
Hearings@michigan.gov

HoldenM

DensonSogbakaN

BSC4HearingDecisions

MOAHR

Via-First Class Mail :

Petitioner

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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