



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

MARLON BROWN
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date Mailed: June 7, 2024
MOAHR Docket No.: 24-004922
Agency No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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 30, 2024, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner was represented by herself and [REDACTED] testified on her behalf. The Department was represented by Hanna Czechowski.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly determine the most beneficial category of Medical Assistance (MA) that Petitioner is eligible for?

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 Medical Assistance (MA) on February [REDACTED] 2024, when the Department received her Redetermination form. Exhibit A, p 10.
2. Petitioner is over 64 years old. Exhibit A, p 11.
3. Petitioner receives monthly Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) in the gross monthly amount of \$[REDACTED] Exhibit A, p 12.
4. On February [REDACTED] 2024, the Department notified Petitioner that she was eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) with a \$[REDACTED] monthly deductible and that she was eligible for the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) under the SLMB category. Exhibit A, p 20.
5. On April [REDACTED] 2024, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing protesting the level of Medical Assistance (MA) she is receiving. 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.*

Persons may qualify under more than one MA category. Federal law gives them the right to the most beneficial category. The most beneficial category is the one that results in eligibility or the least amount of excess income. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 105 (January 1, 2024), p 2.

The Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) is a category of Medical Assistance (MA) that provides health care coverage for individuals who are 19 to 64 years of age and do not qualify for Medicare or another Medicaid program. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 137 (January 1, 2024), p 1. 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.

Petitioner is not eligible for HMP benefits because she is over 64 years old.

The AD-CARE program is a category of Medical Assistance (MA) that provides health care coverage to individuals who are aged or disabled and have an income that does not exceed the federal poverty level. Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 163 (July 1, 2017), p 1.

The federal poverty level for a household of one in 2024 is \$1,255 per month and Petitioner is not eligible for full MA benefits with no monthly deductible under the AD-CARE category because her income exceeds the federal poverty level.

A review of Petitioner's case reveals that the Department budgeted correct amount of income received by the Petitioner. Petitioner's "protected income level" is \$[REDACTED] and this amount cannot be changed either by the Department or by this Administrative Law Judge. Department of Human Services Reference Table Manual (RFT) 240 (December 1, 2013), p 1. Department's determination that the Petitioner has a \$[REDACTED] deductible per month she must meet in order to qualify for MA for any medical expenses above is therefore correct.

Petitioner is eligible for the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) which covers her Medicare Part B premium, which would otherwise be deducted from her social security payment. Since the Department pays her Medicare Part B premium, this expense cannot be applied towards her monthly deductible before her MA benefits become active in that month.

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 the most beneficial category of Medical Assistance (MA) that Petitioner is eligible for.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

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
Hannah Czechowski
Genesee County DHHS Clio Rd Dist.
MDHHS-Genesee-Clio-
Hearings@michigan.gov

SchaeferM

EQADHearings

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MOAHR

Via-First Class Mail :

Petitioner

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]