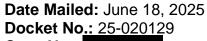
Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules P.O. Box 30639 Lansing, MI 48909





Case No.: Petitioner:

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Date Mailed: June 18, 2025 **Docket No.:** 25-020129

Case No.: Petitioner:

HEARING DECISION

On May 19, 2025, Petitioner Valerie Holmes requested a hearing to dispute her public assistance benefits. As a result, a hearing was scheduled to be held on June 17, 2025. Public assistance hearings are held 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; 45 CFR 205.10; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002.

The parties appeared for the scheduled hearing. Petitioner appeared and represented herself. Respondent Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (Department) had Hearings Coordinator Rachel Meade appear as its representative. There were no other participants.

<u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's FAP benefit amount?

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 May 2025, Petitioner applied for public assistance benefits from the Department, including FAP benefits.
- 2. The Department reviewed Petitioner's application, and the Department determined that Petitioner was eligible for the maximum FAP benefit amount for a group size of three.
- 3. On May 2025, the Department issued a notice of case action to Petitioner to notify her that she was approved for a \$ FAP benefit for May 2, 2025, through May 31, 2025, and a \$ FAP benefit for each month thereafter.
- 4. On May 2025, the Department mailed a new hire client notice to Petitioner to obtain information about Petitioner's employment at The new hire client notice instructed Petitioner to complete a form and return it to the Department by May 22, 2025.

- 5. On May 2025, Petitioner returned the form to the Department. Petitioner wrote on the form that she does not work at Petitioner wrote that she needed a hearing. The Department cancelled the pending new hire client notice when it received Petitioner's response.
- 6. Petitioner is frustrated with how the Department has handled her public assistance benefits.
- 7. On June 17, 2025, Petitioner made a verbal request to close all her public assistance benefits.

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 established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001-.3011.

In this case, Petitioner applied for FAP benefits from the Department, and the Department determined that Petitioner was eligible for the maximum FAP benefit amount for her group size. Petitioner did not present any evidence to establish that the Department did not properly determine her FAP benefit amount. Therefore, the Department's decision is affirmed.

DECISION AND ORDER

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 its policies and the applicable law when it determined Petitioner's FAP benefit amount.

IT IS ORDERED that the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

JEFFREY KEMM ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

APPEAL RIGHTS: Petitioner may appeal this Hearing Decision to the circuit court. Rules for appeals to the circuit court can be found in the Michigan Court Rules (MCR), including MCR 7.101 to MCR 7.123, available at the Michigan Courts website at courts.michigan.gov. The Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR) cannot provide legal advice, but assistance may be available through the State Bar of Michigan at https://lrs.michbar.org or Michigan Legal Help at https://michiganlegalhelp.org. A copy of the circuit court appeal should be sent to MOAHR. A circuit court appeal may result in a reversal of the Hearing Decision.

Either party who disagrees with this Hearing Decision may also send a written request for a rehearing and/or reconsideration to MOAHR within 30 days of the mailing date of this Hearing Decision. The request should include Petitioner's name, the docket number from page 1 of this Hearing Decision, an explanation of the specific reasons for the request, and any documents supporting the request. The request should be sent to MOAHR

- by email to MOAHR-BSD-Support@michigan.gov, OR
- by fax at (517) 763-0155, **OR**
- by mail addressed to Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules Rehearing/Reconsideration Request P.O. Box 30639 Lansing Michigan 48909-8139

Documents sent via email are not secure and can be faxed or mailed to avoid any potential risks. Requests MOAHR receives more than 30 days from the mailing date of this Hearing Decision may be considered untimely and dismissed.

Via Electronic Mail: Responde	/ia Electronic Mail:	Res	ponder
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JACKSON COUNTY DHHS 301 E LOUIS GLICK HWY JACKSON, MI 49201 MDHHS-JACKSON-HEARINGS@MICHIGAN.GOV

Via First Class Mail:

Petitioner