



Date Mailed: August 15, 2025
Docket No.: 25-023992
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
MI [REDACTED]

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এটি একটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ আইনি ডকুমেন্ট। দয়া করে কেউ দস্তাবেজ অনুবাদ করুন।

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Ky është një dokument ligjor i rëndësishëm. Ju lutem, kini dikë ta përktheni dokumentin.

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Case No.: [REDACTED]

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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; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. After due notice, a hearing was held via telephone conference on August 11, 2025. Petitioner appeared and was represented by Authorized Hearing Representative, [REDACTED]. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department) was represented by Zelia Cobb, Medical Contact Worker.

ISSUE

Did MDHHS properly deny Petitioner's State Disability Assistance (SDA) application?

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] 2025, Petitioner submitted an application for cash assistance on the basis of a disability.
2. On May 16, 2025, a disability determination packet was sent to Petitioner, to be returned to MDHHS by May 26, 2025 (Exhibit A, p. 6-7). Petitioner was granted an extension to submit by June 9, 2025.
3. On June 11, 2025, MDHHS issued a Notice of Case Action to Petitioner, informing him that his SDA application was denied for failure to return a completed disability packet.
4. On June 27, 2025, Petitioner timely submitted a hearing request disputing the denial of his SDA application (Exhibit A, pp. 3-5).

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 State Disability Assistance (SDA) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The Department of Health and Human Services (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers the SDA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3151-.3180.

Petitioner disputes the denial of his SDA application. MDHHS testified that while Petitioner submitted the disability packet, he failed to provide verification that he was pursuing benefits from the Social Security Administration (SSA).

To receive SDA, a person must be disabled, caring for a disabled person, or age 65 or older. An individual automatically qualifies as disabled for purposes of the SDA program if the individual receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Medical Assistance (MA-P) benefits based on disability or blindness. Otherwise, to be considered disabled for SDA purposes, a person must have a physical or mental impairment for at least ninety days which meets federal SSI disability standards, meaning the person is unable to do any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment. BEM 261 (April 2017), pp. 1-2; 20 CFR 416.901; 20 CFR 416.905(a). At program application or request for disability deferral, clients must apply for or appeal benefits through the SSA if claiming disability and/or blindness as a condition of program eligibility. SSA's final determination that a client is not disabled and/or blind supersedes MDHHS' Disability Determination Service (DDS) certification. BAM 815 (January 2025), pp. 1-2. As a condition of eligibility individuals must apply for any state and/or federal benefits for which they may be eligible. Refusal of a program group member to pursue potential benefits result in group ineligibility. BEM 270 (January 2025), p. 1.

In this case, Petitioner reported the intent to apply for disability benefits through SSA but testified that he did not provide verification of his SSA case. As Petitioner did not provide proper verification of his SSA case to MDHHS, the Department acted in accordance with policy in denying Petitioner's SDA application. At the hearing, Petitioner was advised to reapply for SDA benefits and how to provide required verifications timely.

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 MDHHS acted in accordance with Department policy when it denied Petitioner's cash assistance application.

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



DANIELLE NUCCIO
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.

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Via Electronic Mail:

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Petitioner

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Authorized Hearing Rep

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