



**Date Mailed:** December 4, 2025  
**Docket No.:** 25-033772  
**Case No.:** [REDACTED]  
**Petitioner:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
MI [REDACTED]

This is an important legal document. Please have someone translate the document.

هذه وثيقة قانونية مهمة. يرجى أن يكون هناك شخص ما يترجم المستند.

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

Este es un documento legal importante. Por favor, que alguien traduzca el documento.

这是一份重要的法律文件。请让别人翻译文件。

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

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**Case No.:** [REDACTED]

**Petitioner:** [REDACTED]

### **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; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; and 45 CFR 205.10. After due notice, a telephone hearing commenced on October 23, 2025 and was completed on December 2, 2025. Petitioner only appeared for the October 23, 2025 hearing and represented herself. The Department was represented by Rebecca Ferrill, Assistance Payments Supervisor, and Sherri Polk, Family Independence Manager (FIM).

During the hearing proceeding, the Department's Hearing Summary packet was admitted as Exhibit A, pp. 1-163.

### **ISSUE**

Whether the Department properly determined that Petitioner was not disabled for purposes of the State Disability Assistance (SDA) benefit program?

### **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 applied for SDA based on disability. (Exhibit A, p. 2)
2. On August 11, 2025, the Medical Review Team/Disability Determination Services (MRT/DDS) found Petitioner not disabled for the SDA program. (Exhibit A, pp. 7-8)
3. On August 13, 2025, written notice of the SDA denial was issued to Petitioner. (Exhibit A, pp. 1-2)
4. On September 4, 2025, Petitioner filed a hearing request contesting the Department's determination. (Exhibit A, pp. 3-5)
5. The Social Security Administration (SSA) has since found Petitioner disabled with an onset date of July 9, 2023. (FIM Testimony)

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## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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Department policies are contained in the Department of Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), and Department of Health and Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

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.

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program, which provides financial assistance for disabled persons, was established by 2004 PA 344. The Department administers the SDA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10 *et seq.* and Mich Admin Code, Rules 400.3151 – 400.3180. A person is considered disabled for SDA purposes if the person has a physical or mental impairment which meets federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability standards for at least ninety days. Receipt of SSI benefits based on disability or blindness, or the receipt of MA benefits based on disability or blindness, automatically qualifies an individual as disabled for purposes of the SDA program.

To receive SDA, a person must be disabled, caring for a disabled person, or age 65 or older. A person eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance (RSDI) benefits based on disability or blindness meets the disability or blindness criteria for SDA. BEM 261 (April 1, 2017), pp. 1-2.

In this case, Petitioner applied for SDA based on disability on [REDACTED] 2025. (Exhibit A, p. 2). On August 11, 2025, MRT/DDS found Petitioner not disabled for the SDA program. (Exhibit A, pp. 7-8). Accordingly, on August 13, 2025, written notice of the SDA denial was issued to Petitioner. (Exhibit A, pp. 1-2). After Petitioner requested a hearing contesting the SDA denial, SSA found Petitioner disabled with an onset date of July 9, 2023. The local Department office verified the SSA determination with a State Online Query (SOLQ) report. As of the December 2, 2025 hearing date, SDA was being approved back to the original application date and is to end on December 1, 2025, when Petitioner will begin receiving RSDI benefits. (FIM Testimony).

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 Petitioner disabled for purposes of the SDA benefit program.

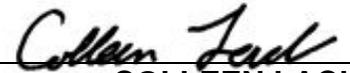
## DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's determination is **REVERSED**.

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THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO INITIATE 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. If not done previously, initiate a review of the SDA application dated April 28, 2025, to determine Petitioner's non-medical eligibility. The Department shall inform Petitioner of the determination in writing.



COLLEEN LACK  
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](https://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

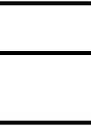
- by email to [MOAHR-BSD-Support@michigan.gov](mailto:MOAHR-BSD-Support@michigan.gov), **OR**
- by fax at (517) 763-0155, **OR**
- by mail addressed to  
Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules  
Rehearing/Reconsideration Request  
P.O. Box 30639  
Lansing Michigan 48909-8139

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.

25-033772

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**Via Electronic Mail:**

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