



Date Mailed: November 19, 2025

Docket No.: 25-034323

Case No.: [REDACTED]

Petitioner: [REDACTED]

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

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.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] MI [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 October 22, 2025. Petitioner did not appear for the hearing. Petitioner was represented by her Authorized Hearing Representative (AHR) [REDACTED]. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department) was represented by Caitlin Dodge, Family Independence Manager.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly process Petitioner's application for Medicare Savings Program (MSP) benefits?

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 or around [REDACTED] 2025, Petitioner submitted an application requesting MSP benefits.
2. On or around September 11, 2025, the Department sent Petitioner a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice advising that she was ineligible for MSP benefits because she did not meet basic criteria.
3. On or around September 17, 2025, Petitioner requested a hearing disputing the denial of her MSP application.
4. On or around September 26, 2025, the Department began reprocessing Petitioner's MSP application, as it had determined that the application was denied in error.
5. On or around October 22, 2025, the Department sent Petitioner a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice advising that effective October 1, 2025, she was approved MSP benefits under the Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries category.

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 1396-1396w-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.

In this case, Petitioner requested a hearing disputing the Departments actions with respect to the MSP.

MSP are SSI-related MA categories. There are four MSP categories: Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB); Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB); Additional Low-Income Beneficiaries (ALMB); and Non-Categorically Eligible Michigan Beneficiaries (NMB). BEM 165 (July 2024), p. 1. QMB is a full coverage MSP that pays Medicare premiums (Medicare Part B premiums and Part A premiums for those few people who have them), Medicare coinsurances, and Medicare deductibles. SLMB pays Medicare Part B premiums and ALMB pays Medicare Part B premiums provided funding is available. NMB pays the Medicare Part B premiums (and the part A premiums for the few who have them) for full coverage Medicaid beneficiaries not otherwise eligible for MSP. BEM 165, pp. 1-2.

At the hearing, the Department representative conceded that Petitioner's [REDACTED] 2025, MSP application had been denied in error and that after receiving Petitioner's request for hearing, the application was reprocessed. The Department representative testified that after obtaining updated verifications, it determined that Petitioner was eligible for MSP benefits effective October 1, 2025, based on her date of enrollment in Medicare. On or around October 22, 2025, the Department sent Petitioner a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice advising that effective October 1, 2025, she was approved for MSP benefits under the SLMB category. However, as of the hearing date, the Department had not processed the Medicare Part B Buy-In to allow for reimbursement of Medicare premiums withheld by the Social Security Administration (SSA), if any.

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 did not act in accordance with Department policy when it when it processed Petitioner's MSP benefits.

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. Process the Medicare Buy-In based on the October 1, 2025, date of MSP SLMB approval and supplement Petitioner and/or the Social Security Administration for Medicare premiums in accordance with Department policy; and
2. Notify Petitioner and her AHR in writing of its decision.



ZAINAB A BAYDOUN
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:

Respondent
OAKLAND COUNTY DHHS - SOUTHFIELD DIST
25620 W 8 MILE RD
SOUTHFIELD, MI 48033
MDHHS-OAKLAND-6303-HEARINGS@MICHIGAN.GOV

Via First Class Mail:

Authorized Hearing Rep
[REDACTED]
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Petitioner
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