



Date Mailed: December 12, 2025
Docket No.: 25-034539
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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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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Docket No.: 25-034539

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; 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 28, 2025. Petitioner appeared and was unrepresented. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department) was represented by Ryan Reisig, Eligibility Specialist (ES).

During the hearing proceeding, the Department's Hearing Summary packet was admitted as Exhibit A, pp. 1-27.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's eligibility for State Disability Assistance (SDA) 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 [REDACTED] 2025, Petitioner applied for SDA. (Exhibit A, pp. 12-17)
2. On July 9, 2025, a Medical Determination Verification Checklist and Notice to Apply were issued to Petitioner. In part, requesting that Petitioner provide verification that she had applied for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) with a due date of July 21, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 18-20)
3. On July 17, 2025, Petitioner submitted documentation that she had obtained legal representation to pursue disability benefits with the Social Security Administration (SSA). Petitioner signed the Social Security Fee Agreement on July 14, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 21-22)
4. On July 22, 2025, a Notice of Case Action was issued to Petitioner denying SDA based on the failure to cooperate in pursuing other potential benefits. (Exhibit A, pp. 23-26)

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5. On September 10, 2025, Petitioner filed a hearing request contesting the Department's determination. (Exhibit A, pp. 4-10)
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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.

For individuals applying for SDA, verification must be obtained from SSA that an application or appeal is on file before the case is referred to the Disability Determination Services (DDS). For SDA individuals receiving disability-related Medicaid, verification must be obtained from SSA that an SSI application or appeal is on file at program redetermination and medical determination review. BEM 270, January 1, 2025, p. 7.

In this case, the Department explained that SDA was denied because as of July 22, 2025, there was no verification of an active SSI application or appeal. (Exhibit A, p. 3).

On July 9, 2025, a Medical Determination Verification Checklist and Notice to Apply were issued to Petitioner. In part, requesting that Petitioner provide verification that she had applied for SSI with a due date of July 21, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 18-20). On July 17, 2025, Petitioner submitted documentation that she had obtained legal representation to pursue disability benefits with SSA. Petitioner signed the Social Security Fee Agreement on July 14, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 21-22). Petitioner's documentation did not show that she had applied for SSI benefits or had an appointment scheduled with SSA to apply for SSI. On July 22, 2025, a Notice of Case Action was issued to Petitioner denying SDA based on the failure to cooperate in pursuing other potential benefits. (Exhibit A, pp. 23-26).

Petitioner asserted that the verification checklist only indicated she had to apply for disability benefits with SSA and did not specify that she had to apply for SSI. (Petitioner Testimony). The Medical Determination Verification Checklist was marked that Petitioner needed to "apply for [SSA] disability benefits" and that she should provide "proof of pending [SSA] disability benefits application or scheduled appointment to apply for benefits" by the July 21, 2025 due date. (Exhibit A, p. 18). However, this form also specified that Petitioner was "required to apply for [SSI] with the [SSA] 1-800-772-1213 and provide proof of pending SSI application to MDHHS by the due date. Failure to pursue a potential benefit result in cash denial." (Exhibit A, p. 19). The Notice to Apply

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also specified that Petitioner was required to “file an application for SSI and to file an appeal if [her] application is denied.” Petitioner was specifically “required to file an application for SSI by 07/21/25.” (Exhibit A, p. 20). Accordingly, the documentation shows that Petitioner was specifically advised to apply for SSI.

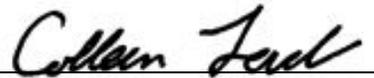
Petitioner’s testimony indicated that the address the Medical Determination Verification Checklist and Notice to Apply were sent to was a prior address. (Petitioner Testimony). These forms were mailed on July 9, 2025 to Petitioner at an address on [REDACTED], which was the address she provided on her [REDACTED] 2025 SDA application. (Exhibit A, pp. 12 and 18-20). Petitioner testified that she provided a new address to the Department on July 10, 2025. (Petitioner Testimony). Accordingly, the Medical Determination Verification Checklist and Notice to Apply were properly sent to Petitioner at the address that was currently on file with the Department when they were issued on July 9, 2025.

The Department’s determination to deny Petitioner’s SDA application was in accordance with the above cited BEM 270 policy. At the time of the July 22, 2025 determination, Petitioner had not provided verification that she had an application or appeal on file with SSA, or that an appointment had been scheduled to apply for SSI. The verification requests submitted to Petitioner specified that she needed to provide verification that she had filed an application for SSI and the due date was July 21, 2025. The verification requests did not indicate that providing documentation that she had obtained representation for a claim with SSA would be sufficient.

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 Department policy when it denied Petitioner’s SDA application.

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



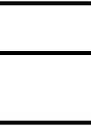
COLLEEN LACK
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

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. 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**
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Via First Class Mail: **Petitioner**
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