



Date Mailed: January 9, 2026

Docket No.: 25-044797

Case No.: [REDACTED]

Petitioner: [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.

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

[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 December 30, 2025. Petitioner was represented by [REDACTED], sister and Authorized Hearing Representative (AHR). Petitioner was present. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department) was represented by Tanya Henderson, Payments Specialist (PS).

During the hearing proceeding, the Department's Hearing Summary packet was admitted as Exhibit A, pp. 1-21.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly close Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) and Medical Assistance (MA) benefits case?

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 October 22, 2025, a New Hire Client Notice was issued to Petitioner requesting verification of employment income from [REDACTED] Industries with a due date of November 3, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 8-10)
2. The requested employment verification was not received by the Department by November 3, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 1 and 19)
3. On November 5, 2025, a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice was issued to Petitioner indicating the MA benefit case would close effective December 1, 2025, based on a failure to verify requested information. (Exhibit A, pp. 11-14)
4. On November 5, 2025, a Notice of Case Action was issued indicating the FAP benefit case would close effective December 1, 2025, based on a failure to verify requested information. (Exhibit A, pp. 15-18)

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5. On November 21, 2025, Petitioner filed a hearing request contesting the Department's actions. (Exhibit A, pp. 3-5)
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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 Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] 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 (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001-.3011. 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 general, verification is to be obtained when information regarding an eligibility factor is unclear, inconsistent, incomplete, or contradictory. Verification is usually required at application/redetermination and for a reported change affecting eligibility or benefit level. The Department must tell the client what verification is required, how to obtain it, and the due date. The client must obtain required verification, but the Department must assist if the client needs and requests help. If neither the client nor the Department can obtain verification despite a reasonable effort, the Department should use the best available information. If no evidence is available, the Department is to use their best judgment. BAM 130, May 1, 2024, pp. 1-4.

For FAP, the Department must allow the client 10 calendar days (or other time limit specified in policy) to provide the verification requested. Verifications are considered to be timely if received by the date they are due. The Department is to send a negative action notice when the client indicates refusal to provide a verification, or the time period given has elapsed and the client has not made a reasonable effort to provide it. BAM 130, May 1, 2024, p. 7. For FAP only, if the client contacts the department prior to the due date requesting an extension or assistance in obtaining verifications, assist the client with the verifications but do not grant an extension. Explain to the client they will not be given an extension and their case will be denied once the VCL due date is passed. Also, explain their eligibility will be determined based on their compliance date if they return required verifications. Re register the application if the client complies

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within 60 days of the application date; see Subsequent Processing in BAM 115. BAM 130, pp. 7-8.

For MA, the Department must allow the client 10 calendar days (or other time limit specified in policy) to provide the verification requested. If the client cannot provide the verification despite a reasonable effort, the Department can extend the time limit up to two times when specific conditions are met. These conditions include that the customer/authorized representative need to make the request. An extension should not automatically be given. Verifications are considered timely if received by the date they are due. The Department is to send a case action notice when the client indicates refusal to provide a verification, or the time period given has elapsed. BAM 130, pp. 8-9.

In this case, a New Hire Client Notice was issued to Petitioner on October 22, 2025, requesting verification of employment income from [REDACTED] with a due date of November 3, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 8-10). The requested employment verification was not received by the Department by November 3, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 1 and 19). Accordingly, on November 5, 2025, a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice was issued to Petitioner indicating the MA benefit case would close effective December 1, 2025, based on a failure to verify requested information. (Exhibit A, pp. 11-14). Additionally, on November 5, 2025, a Notice of Case Action was issued indicating the FAP benefit case would close effective December 1, 2025, based on a failure to verify requested information. (Exhibit A, pp. 15-18).

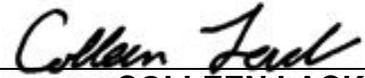
Petitioner's AHR explained that they gave the New Hire Client Notice to Petitioner's employer, but the employer did not send it to the Department. (AHR Testimony). The November 5, 2025 MA and FAP closure determinations were in accordance with Department policy. The Department did not receive the requested verification and there was no evidence that the Department was contacted to request assistance with obtaining the needed verification, or for the MA case, that an extension of the due date was requested. Accordingly, the November 5, 2025 determinations must be upheld based on the circumstances at that time. It was noted that Petitioner has since reapplied for FAP and MA. If they have not already done so, the Department will issue new eligibility determinations for the recent application.

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 determined Petitioner's eligibility for MA and FAP.

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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://rs.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:

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Via First Class Mail:

Petitioner

[REDACTED]
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Authorized Hearing Rep

[REDACTED]
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