



Date Mailed: January 21, 2026

Docket No.: 25-046018

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.

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[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 January 13, 2026. Petitioner appeared and was unrepresented. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department) was represented by Michelle Jaus, Hearing Facilitator. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-61 was received and admitted.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) application for failing to verify income and loss of employment?

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 September [REDACTED] 2025, Petitioner applied for FAP.
2. On September [REDACTED] 2025, a Verification Checklist was sent to Petitioner requesting verification of employment.
3. On September [REDACTED] 2025, a Notice of Case Action was sent to Petitioner informing her that her FAP application was denied for failing to verify earned income and loss of employment.
4. On October [REDACTED] 2025, Petitioner provided a printout from [REDACTED], the printout does not have pay information or end date of employment.
5. On October [REDACTED] 2025, a pay stub for [REDACTED] was provided.
6. On October [REDACTED] 2025, pay stubs for [REDACTED] were provided.
7. On October [REDACTED] 2025, a New Hire Notice form was received from [REDACTED] former employer that showed loss of employment but did not have required pay information for the one day he worked.

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8. On November 25, 2025, Petitioner verbally requested a hearing regarding the denial of FAP.
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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.

Timeliness of Verifications

FIP, SDA, RCA, Child Development and Care (CDC), FAP

Allow the client 10 calendar days (or other time limit specified in policy) to provide the verification that is requested. Exception: For CDC, if the client cannot provide the verification despite a reasonable effort, extend the time limit at least once. Exception: For CDC, at redetermination, if a signed redetermination form is received prior to the end of the redetermination month, and verifications are missing or incomplete, send a VCL. Verifications are due by the end of the redetermination month, or within 10 days after they are requested, which ever allows more time. Verifications are considered to be timely if received by the date they are due. For electronically transmitted verifications (fax, email or Mi Bridges document upload), the date of the transmission is the receipt date. Verifications that are submitted after the close of regular business hours through the drop box or by delivery of a MDHHS representative are considered to be received the next business day. 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

Subsequent Processing

FAP Only

Proceed as follows when a client completes the application process after denial but within 60 days after the application date. On or before the 30th day: • Re-register the application, using the original application date. • If the client is eligible, determine whether to prorate benefits according to initial benefits policy in this item. Between the 31st and 60th days: • Re-register the application, using the date the client completed the process. • If the client is eligible, prorate benefits from the date the client complied. BAM 115

25-046018

In this case, Petitioner applied for FAP and a verification checklist was sent to Petitioner requesting verification of employment income and loss of employment. Petitioner never provided verification of loss of employment for Petitioner and never provided income information for [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for the one day he worked at [REDACTED] and the application was denied. That denial was proper and correct and consistent with Department policy. BAM 130 The Department gave Petitioner an opportunity to submit all required verifications within the subsequent processing time frame, but all required verifications were not received prior to the subsequent processing deadline. BAM 115

At hearing, Petitioner expressed frustration that she was not able to obtain all requested verifications from the household member's former employers. Petitioner was advised to request assistance from the Department if she is unable to obtain verifications going forward.

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 FAP application for failing to verify income and loss of employment.

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



AARON MCCLINTIC
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:

Respondent
OTTAWA COUNTY DHHS
12185 JAMES ST STE 200
HOLLAND, MI 49424
**MDHHS-OTTAWA-
HEARINGS@MICHIGAN.GOV**



Via First Class Mail:

Petitioner

[Redacted]
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