



STATE OF WISCONSIN  
Division of Hearings and Appeals

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In the Matter of

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

DECISION

FCP/151848

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**PRELIMINARY RECITALS**

Pursuant to a petition filed September 04, 2013, under Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 10.55, to review a decision by the Milwaukee Enrollment Services in regard to Medical Assistance, a hearing was held on October 01, 2013, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The issues for determination are whether Petitioner's cost share obligation has been correctly calculated.

There appeared at that time and place the following persons:

**PARTIES IN INTEREST:**

Petitioner:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Respondent:

Department of Health Services  
1 West Wilson Street  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

By: Chris Sobczak

Milwaukee Enrollment Services  
1220 W Vliet St  
Milwaukee, WI 53205

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:**

David D. Fleming  
Division of Hearings and Appeals

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Petitioner (CARES # [REDACTED]) is a resident of Milwaukee County.
2. Petitioner is a participant in the Family Care Program (FCP). She filed this appeal to contest the imposition of a cost share for participation in the FCP.
3. Petitioner's case was subject to review in August 2013. After the review Petitioner was determined to be liable for a cost share. It had been zero but increased to \$228.43 because medical/remedial expenses were not reported.

4. Petitioner has gross unearned income of \$1912.00 but pays a Medicare premium of \$105 and the agency used income of \$1807 in determining cost share. In the determination of the cost share, Petitioner has been credited, both before and after the review, with a basic needs allowance of \$890 and an insurance premium of \$63.00. Her special housing amount was \$650 prior to the review and dropped to \$625.00 after the review but was then adjusted to \$633.93. Before the review Petitioner had medical remedial expenses of \$265.05 but none were reported at the review.
5. After the review and even after the hearing request medical remedial information for Petitioner was reported to the economic support agency. This first reduced cost share to \$160.08 but then increased the cost share to \$168.08. By the time of the hearing, however, the cost share had finally been determined to be \$118.08 effective September 1, 2013.

### DISCUSSION

People eligible for Family Care Medicaid fall into one of the following categories:

#### Group A eligibility

1. People 18 and over who meet full benefit EBD Medicaid financial and non-financial requirements and who are also functionally eligible for FC at either the nursing home or non-nursing home level of care.
2. People 18 and over who meet BC+ Standard Plan, Well Woman Medicaid, Medicaid through Adoption Assistance or Foster Care financial and non-financial requirements and who are functionally eligible for FC at either the nursing home or non-nursing home level of care.

#### Group B eligibility

People 18 and over who meet full benefit EBD Medicaid non-financial and financial requirements except for income, who are functionally eligible for FC at the nursing home level of care, and whose income is at or below the special income limit (See the Community Waivers Special Income Limit in 39.4.1)

#### Group C eligibility

People 18 and over who meet full benefit EBD Medicaid non-financial and financial requirements except for income, who are functionally eligible for FC at the nursing home level of care, and whose income is above the special income limit (see the Community Waivers Special Income Limit in 39.4.1), but whose allowable monthly expenses are sufficient to reduce their income to the medically needy limit (See EBD Medically Needy Limits in 39.4.1.)

*Medicaid Eligibility Handbook (MEH), §29.3.1.*

The elderly, blind and disabled (EBD) financial income limit is \$591.67 and the Community Waivers Special Income Limit is \$2130, effective January 1, 2013. *MEH, §39.4.1 and Operations Memo12-63; issued November 28, 2012.* As Petitioner's counted gross income is \$1807, it is apparent that she falls into the group B category of Family Care eligibility. Group B FCP members must make a cost share payment. *Id., §28.8.3.*

Cost sharing is the monthly amount a waivers participant has to contribute toward the cost of his/her waiver services. *MEH, § 28.5.1.* Payment of the cost share is a condition of eligibility. *Id.* The allowable deductions from income are the personal maintenance allowance, a family maintenance allowance where the FCP member is the custodial parent, health insurance premiums, medical/remedial expenses and special exempt income. *MEH, §§28.8.3.1; 28.8.3.2 and 28.8.3.3.* The personal maintenance allowance is calculated as follows:

**28.8.3.1 Personal Maintenance Allowance**

The Personal Maintenance Allowance is an income deduction used primarily when calculating a cost share for a Group B waiver member. However, it is also used in the cost share calculation of a Group C waiver member when completing Section C of the Spousal Impoverishment Income Allocation Worksheet (18.6.4).

The personal maintenance allowance (Line 6 and Page 2 of the worksheet) is for room, board, and personal expenses. It is the total of:

1. Community Waivers Basic Needs Allowance (See 39.4.2 EBD Deductions and Allowances)
2. \$65 and ½ earned income deduction (See 15.7.5 \$65 and ½ Earned Income Deduction).
3. Special housing amount. This is an amount of the person's income set aside to help pay housing costs. If the waiver applicant's housing costs are over \$350, add together the following costs:
  - a. Rent.
  - b. Home or renters insurance.
  - c. Mortgage.
  - d. Property tax (including special assessments).
  - e. Utilities (heat, water, sewer, electricity).
  - f. "Room" amount for members in a Community Based Residential Facility (CBRF), Residential Care Apartment Complex (RCAC) or an Adult Family/Foster Allowance.) Home (AFH). The case manager determines and provides this amount.

The total, minus \$350, equals the special housing amount. The person can set this amount aside from his/her income.

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*MEH, §28.8.3.1.*

The special exempt income deduction consists of:

1. Income used for supporting others (15.7.2.1 Support Payments).
2. Court-ordered attorney fees (15.7.2.3 Fees to Guardians or Attorneys).
3. Court-ordered guardian and guardian ad litem fees (15.7.2.3 Fees to Guardians or Attorneys).
4. Expenses associated with establishing and maintaining a guardianship. (15.7.2.3 Fees to Guardians or Attorneys)
5. Expenses associated with a Self-Support Plan (15.7.2.2 Self-Support Plan).
6. Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWE) (15.7.4 Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWE)
7. Maintaining a home or apartment (15.7.1 Maintaining Home or Apartment)
8. Costs associated with real property listed for sale (16.2 Assets Availability)

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*MEH, §15.7.2.*

Finally, medical remedial expenses are as follows:

Medical and Remedial Expenses (MRE) are used in:

1. the home and community-based waiver programs ,
2. patient liability calculations for residents of a medical institution, and
3. cost share and Medicaid Purchase Plan ( MAPP) premium calculations.

Medical expenses are anticipated incurred expenses for services or goods that have been prescribed or provided by a professional medical practitioner (licensed in Wisconsin or another state). The expense is for diagnosis, cure, treatment, or prevention of disease or for treatment affecting any part of the body. These are expenses that are the responsibility of the member, and cannot be reimbursable by any other source, such as Medicaid, private insurance, or employer.

The following are examples of medical expenses:

1. Deductibles and co-payments for Medicaid, Medicare, and private health insurances.
2. Health insurance premiums.
3. Bills for medical services which are not covered by the Wisconsin Medicaid program.
4. For purposes of meeting a Medicaid deductible, medical services received before the person became eligible for Medicaid. (Past medical bills cannot be used for MAPP premium calculations.)

Remedial expenses are costs incurred for services or goods that are provided for the purpose of relieving, remedying, or reducing a medical or health condition. These are expenses that are the responsibility of the member and cannot be reimbursable by any other source, such as Medicaid, private insurance, or employer.

Some examples of remedial expenses are:

1. Case management.
2. Day care.
3. Housing modifications for accessibility.
4. Respite care.
5. Supportive home care.
6. Transportation.
7. Services recognized under s.46.27, Wis. Stats.
8. Community Options Program, that are included in the person's service plan.

Remedial expenses do not include housing or room and board services.  
*MEH, §15.7.3*

Petitioner has been enrolled in the FCP for a year and this is her first review. She is also relatively recently widowed. She notes that her overall expenses, including her shelter costs, food and car, make any cost share a financial burden and she can only afford even the \$118.00 by putting it on a credit card. Additionally, she notes that she has out of pocket expenses of about \$50.00 for such things as vitamins and special mouth washes that she has to use because of the effect of long term use of rheumatoid arthritis medications. The biggest reason for the cost share here is it that Petitioner had to cancel a supplemental insurance policy as it was unaffordable and that reduced her medical remedial expenses.

The above is, perhaps, overly detailed but provides an explanation of the calculation. While there are some over the counter costs that were not included in the medical remedial expense they were not detailed sufficiently at the hearing for me to change the cost share and, as noted in the medical remedial description above, really require documentation of medical necessity by Petitioner's physician. Ultimately, this case was about the imposition of a cost share by the program and the affordability of it. As for the imposition of a cost share, the Division of Hearings and Appeals does not make or change law and policy. It can only decide whether or not the parties in cases over which it has authority have followed and/or correctly applied the law and policy. Here I have reviewed the calculations with information made available at the hearing. It appears that there is an error in the \$63.00 insurance deduction – it is for Petitioner's car not medical. That is not an error in Petitioner's favor. Other than that, I do not identify any errors.

Finally, Petitioner should note that if any of the amounts used in the cost share calculation change and/or if she can get prescriptions or documentation of medical necessity from her physician she should provide that documentation to her case worker as soon as possible.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

That the available evidence indicates that Petitioner's cost share has been correctly calculated.

**THEREFORE, it is**

**ORDERED**

That this appeal is dismissed.

**REQUEST FOR A REHEARING**

This is a final administrative decision. If you think this decision is based on a serious mistake in the facts or the law, you may request a rehearing. You may also ask for a rehearing if you have found new evidence which would change the decision. Your request must explain what mistake the Administrative Law Judge made and why it is important or you must describe your new evidence and tell why you did not have it at your first hearing. If you do not explain these things, your request will have to be denied.

To ask for a rehearing, send a written request to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, P.O. Box 7875, Madison, WI 53707-7875. Send a copy of your request to the other people named in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST." Your request for a rehearing must be received no later than 20 days after the date of the decision. Late requests cannot be granted.

The process for asking for a rehearing is in Wis. Stat. § 227.49. A copy of the statutes can be found at your local library or courthouse.

**APPEAL TO COURT**

You may also appeal this decision to Circuit Court in the county where you live. Appeals must be served and filed with the appropriate court no more than 30 days after the date of this hearing decision (or 30 days after a denial of rehearing, if you ask for one).

For purposes of appeal to circuit court, the Respondent in this matter is the Department of Health Services. After filing the appeal with the appropriate court, it must be served on the Secretary of that Department, either personally or by certified mail. The address of the Department is: 1 West Wilson Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703. A copy should also be sent to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, 5005 University Avenue, Suite 201, Madison, WI 53705-5400.

The appeal must also be served on the other "PARTIES IN INTEREST" named in this decision. The process for appeals to the Circuit Court is in Wis. Stat. §§ 227.52 and 227.53.

Given under my hand at the City of Milwaukee,  
Wisconsin, this 22nd day of November, 2013

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\sDavid D. Fleming  
Administrative Law Judge  
Division of Hearings and Appeals



**State of Wisconsin\DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS**

Brian Hayes, Administrator  
Suite 201  
5005 University Avenue  
Madison, WI 53705-5400

Telephone: (608) 266-3096  
FAX: (608) 264-9885  
email: [DHAmail@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHAmail@wisconsin.gov)  
Internet: <http://dha.state.wi.us>

The preceding decision was sent to the following parties on November 22, 2013.

Milwaukee Enrollment Services  
Office of Family Care Expansion