



STATE OF WISCONSIN
Division of Hearings and Appeals

In the Matter of

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DECISION

MSI/153685

PRELIMINARY RECITALS

Pursuant to a petition filed November 21, 2013, under Wis. Stat. § 49.45(5), and Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.03, to review a decision by the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability in regard to Medical Assistance, a telephone hearing was held on January 21, 2014.

The issue for determination is whether the respondent correctly discontinued the petitioner's Medical Assistance benefits because she is no longer a federal SSI cash benefits recipient.

There appeared at that time the following persons:

PARTIES IN INTEREST:

Petitioner:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Respondent:

Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street, Room 651
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

Written Appearance by: Melissa Sherry

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

Peter McCombs
Division of Hearings and Appeals

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner is a resident of Oconto County.
2. The Department notified the petitioner on November 18, 2013, that her state SSI payment would end because her federal SSI benefits were ending on November 30, 2013.

DISCUSSION

Effective January 1, 1996, the State of Wisconsin began sending out its state supplemental SSI payments separately from federal SSI payments (they had previously been sent out as one check by the Social Security Administration). Petitioner was eligible for state supplemental SSI because she received a federal SSI payment. The statute reads, in pertinent part, as follows:

49.77 State supplemental payments.

...

(2) **Eligibility.** The following persons who meet the resource limitations and the nonfinancial eligibility requirements of the federal supplemental security income program under 42 USC 1381 to 1383d are entitled to receive supplemental payments under this section:

1. Any needy person or couple residing in this state who, as of December 31, 1973, was receiving benefits under s.49.18, ...
2. Any needy person or couple residing in this state and receiving benefits under federal Title XVI.
3. Any needy person or couple residing in this state whose income, after deducting income excludable under federal Title XVI, is less than the combined benefit level available under federal Title XVI and this section, if at least one of the following requirements are met:
 - a. The person or couple was eligible for a state supplement under this section based on the last federal eligibility determination prior to January 1, 1996, but was not eligible to receive a payment under federal Title XVI on that date.
4. Any essential person.

Wis. Stat. § 49.77(2).

Wis. Stat., §49.77(2), emphasis added. Petitioner received state supplemental SSI because she received federal SSI (Title XVI). Because federal SSI was terminated, so too was state supplemental SSI pursuant to §49.177(2)(a)2 above.

Anyone who receives SSI benefits is entitled to receive MA as "categorically needy" under Wis. Stat., §49.46(1)(a)4. Conversely, when SSI eligibility ends so does that person's entitlement to MA under the provisions of this statutory section. If, at some future date, petitioner's federal SSI cash benefits are restored, then the State will restore the state-issued benefits for the period in which she is found eligible by the Social Security Administration. Under the facts in this record, her appeal must be dismissed.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The petitioner is not eligible for SSI-related Medical Assistance, as she is no longer receiving a federal SSI payment.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ORDERED

That petitioner's 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, Room 651, 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 Madison,
Wisconsin, this 3rd day of February, 2014

\sPeter McCombs
Administrative Law Judge
Division of Hearings and Appeals



State of Wisconsin\DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

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The preceding decision was sent to the following parties on February 3, 2014.

Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
State SSI