FH

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Division of Hearings and Appeals

In the Matter of

[redacted]

DECISION

MDD/160574

PRELIMINARY RECITALS

Pursuant to a petition filed July 14, 2014, under Wis. Stat., §49.45(5), to review a decision by the Disability Determination Bureau (DDB) to deny disability for Medical Assistance (MA) purposes, a hearing was held on October 16, 2014, by telephone.

The issue for determination is whether petitioner is disabled.

PARTIES IN INTEREST:
Petitioner:

[redacted]

Respondent:

Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street, Room 651
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
By: No Appearance

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:
Brian C. Schneider
Division of Hearings and Appeals

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner is a resident of Sauk County.
2. Petitioner applied for MA on November 20, 2013. By a letter dated June 11, 2014, the DDB found that petitioner was not disabled. Petitioner sought reconsideration, but the DDB affirmed its determination on September 9, 2014.
3. Prior to or concurrently with the MA application, petitioner also applied for Social Security disability benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Those benefits were denied on June 3, 2014, with findings of no disability.
4. Petitioner does not allege any new medical impairment other than the impairments considered in the Social Security decision.

DISCUSSION

A person between ages 18 and 65, with no minor children, must be blind or disabled to be eligible for MA. A finding of disability must be in accordance with federal Social Security/SSI standards. See Wis. Stat., §49.47(4)(a)4. Because the standards are the same, a finding of no disability for Social Security/SSI purposes made within 12 months of the MA application is binding on a State Medicaid (MA) agency. Exceptions may occur only if certain conditions exist such as allegations of a different disabling condition or changes in the previously considered conditions. None of the exceptions apply here. See 42 C.F.R. §435.541(a); see also U.S. Department of Health and Human Services commentary, 54 Fed. Reg. 236 (1989).

Because petitioner has been denied Social Security/SSI following a finding of no disability, I must conclude that she is not disabled for MA purposes. However, after the hearing I checked petitioner's record and discovered that she has been receiving MA under the new BadgerCare rules for childless adults since April 1, 2014; she thus should already have a Forward Card for medical coverage.

For Social Security eligibility she should be sure to follow up with the Social Security Administration to inquire about her disability application with that agency. At this point only that agency can determine whether she is disabled.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Petitioner is not disabled as that term is used for MA purposes pursuant to Wis. Stat., §49.47(4).

THEREFORE, it is **ORDERED**

That the petition for review herein be and the same is hereby dismissed.

REQUEST FOR A REHEARING

You may request a rehearing if you think this decision is based on a serious mistake in the facts or the law or if you have found new evidence that would change the decision. Your request must be **received within 20 days after the date of this decision.** Late requests cannot be granted.

Send your request for rehearing in writing to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, 5005 University Avenue, Suite 201, Madison, WI 53705-5400 **and** to those identified in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST." Your rehearing request must explain what mistake the Administrative Law Judge made and why it is important or you must describe your new evidence and explain why you did not have it at your first hearing. If your request does not explain these things, it will be denied.

The process for requesting a rehearing may be found at Wis. Stat. § 227.49. A copy of the statutes may be found online or 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 filed with the Court **and** served either personally or by certified mail on the Secretary of the Department of Health Services, 1 West Wilson Street, Room 651, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, **and** on those identified in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST" **no more than 30 days after the date of this decision** or 30 days after a denial of a timely rehearing (if you request one).

The process for Circuit Court Appeals may be found at Wis. Stat. §§ 227.52 and 227.53. A copy of the statutes may be found online or at your local library or courthouse.

Given under my hand at the City of Madison,
Wisconsin, this 17th day of October, 2014

\sBrian C. Schneider
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 October 17, 2014.

Sauk County Department of Human Services
Disability Determination Bureau