



STATE OF WISCONSIN
Division of Hearings and Appeals

In the Matter of:

Redact

DECISION

MOP/165789

PRELIMINARY RECITALS

Pursuant to a petition filed May 1, 2015, under Wis. Stat. § 49.45(5), and Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.03(1), to review a decision by the Dane County Department of Human Services ["County"] in regard to Medical Assistance ["MA"], a Hearing was held via telephone on June 2, 2015. At petitioner's request a Hearing scheduled for May 21, 2015 was rescheduled. The Hearing for this matter was held at the same time as the Hearing for the following 2 closely related matters: FOP-165788; and, FOP-165790.

The issue for determination is whether the Division of Hearings and Appeals ["DHA"] has jurisdiction to hear the merits of this matter.

There appeared at that time via telephone the following persons:

PARTIES IN INTEREST:

Petitioner:

Redact

Respondent:

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

BY: Redact, Overpayment Specialist
Dane County Department of Human Services
1819 Aberg Avenue
Suite D
Madison, WI 53704-6343

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

Sean P. Maloney
Division of Hearings and Appeals

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner (CARES # [Redact]) is a resident of Dane County, Wisconsin.
2. Petitioner received in a timely manner a notice dated February 17, 2015 and entitled *Medical Assistance/BadgerCare/BadgerCare Plus Overpayment Notice*; that notice informed petitioner that she had been overpaid \$210.00 in MA for the time period September 1, 2012 to July 31, 2013 (Claim # [Redact]); the notice also informed petitioner of her appeal rights and of the process for requesting a Hearing, including the time limit for requesting a Hearing.
3. Petitioner received in a timely manner a second notice dated February 17, 2015 and entitled *Medical Assistance/BadgerCare/BadgerCare Plus Overpayment Notice*; that notice informed petitioner that she had been overpaid \$2,013.10 in MA for the time period April 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013 (Claim # [Redact]); the notice also informed petitioner of her appeal rights and of the process for requesting a Hearing, including the time limit for requesting a Hearing.
4. Petitioner received in a timely manner a third notice dated February 17, 2015 and entitled *Medical Assistance/BadgerCare/BadgerCare Plus Overpayment Notice*; that notice informed petitioner that she had been overpaid \$326.00 in MA for the time period October 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 (Claim # [Redact]); the notice also informed petitioner of her appeal rights and of the process for requesting a Hearing, including the time limit for requesting a Hearing.
5. Petitioner received in a timely manner a fourth notice dated February 16, 2015 and entitled *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus Overpayment Notice*; that notice informed petitioner that she had been overpaid \$2,549.00 in MA for the time period September 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013; the notice also informed petitioner of her appeal rights and of the process for requesting a Hearing, including the time limit for requesting a Hearing.
6. Petitioner did not request a Hearing concerning the above detailed MA overpayments until May 2015; her request for a Hearing was made by way of a *Request For Fair Hearing* form dated April 29, 2015 and received by DHA on May 1, 2015 via U.S. Mail in the envelope that was not postmarked.

DISCUSSION

DHA can only hear cases on the merits if there is jurisdiction to do so. There is no jurisdiction if an appeal is untimely. An appeal concerning MA is untimely if it is not received by DHA within 45 days of the date of the action being appealed. See, 42 C.F.R. § 431.221(d) (2015); Wis. Stat. § 49.45(5)(a) (2013-14); Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 104.01(5)(a)3. (December 2008); Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.05(3) (February 2013); *BadgerCare Plus Eligibility Handbook* ["BC+ Handbook"] 29.2.; *Income Maintenance Manual* ["IMM"] 3.3.2. A Hearing request that is not received within the 45-day time period must be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.05(4)(e) (February 2013).

In this case, the actions being appealed are the February 2015 notices that informed petitioner of the 3 MA overpayments (a total of \$2,549.10 in MA overpayments). Petitioner's request for a Hearing was not filed until, at the earliest, April 29, 2015. See, Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.05(3)(c) (February 2013). This is outside of the allowable 45 days (45 days after February 17, 2015 is April 3, 2015). Therefore, petitioner's appeal is untimely and no jurisdiction exists for DHA to consider the merits of petitioner's appeal.

Petitioner testified that she did not request a Hearing sooner because she “did not know what was going on.” However, she received 4 separate notices and each notice informed her of her appeal rights and of the process for requesting a Hearing, including the time limit for requesting a Hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

For the reasons discussed above, DHA does not have jurisdiction in this matter.

NOW, 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 15th day of June, 2015

\sSean P. Maloney
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 June 15, 2015.

Dane County Department of Human Services
Public Assistance Collection Unit
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability