

**Office of Medicaid
BOARD OF HEARINGS**

Appellant Name and Address:



Appeal Decision:	Approved	Appeal Number:	2411266
Decision Date:	09/06/2024	Hearing Date:	August 19, 2024
Hearing Officer:	Stanley M. Kallianidis	Record Open Date:	September 19, 2024

Appellant Representative:

Jen Alice Chromy-Babb

MassHealth Representative:



*Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
Board of Hearings
100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor
Quincy, MA 02171*

APPEAL DECISION

Appeal Decision:	Approved	Issue:	Verifications
Decision Date:	09/06/2024	Hearing Date:	August 19, 2024
MassHealth Rep.:	Jessica Adameic		

Authority

This hearing was conducted pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 118E, Chapter 30A, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

Jurisdiction

Through a notice dated June 11, 2024, MassHealth denied the appellant's application for MassHealth benefits because MassHealth determined that the verification process had not yet been completed (see 130 CMR 515.008 and Exhibit 1). The appellant filed this appeal in a timely manner on July 24, 2024 (see 130 CMR 610.015 and Exhibit 2). Denial of assistance is valid grounds for appeal (see 130 CMR 610.032).

On July 26, 2024, a hearing notice was sent to the parties (Exhibit 3).

Action Taken by MassHealth

MassHealth denied the appellant's application for MassHealth benefits.

Issue

Pursuant to 130 CMR 610.071, has the appellant provided MassHealth with the requested verifications as of the close of the hearing record so as to be entitled to a re-determination of benefits?

Summary of Evidence

The MassHealth representative testified that the appellant's February 12, 2024 application was denied due to a failure to provide timely verifications (Exhibit 4). A verification request was sent out to the appellant (Exhibit 4). The verifications were not submitted and a Notice of Denial was issued on June 11, 2024 (Exhibit 1). The missing verifications at issue were the appellant's private pension, annuity income and bank statements (Exhibit 4).

The record was left open for 30 days during which time the appellant's representative submitted the requested verifications to MassHealth's satisfaction. The MassHealth representative also indicated that she would honor the original application date (Exhibits 5 & 6).

Findings of Fact

Based on a preponderance of the evidence, I find:

1. The appellant applied for MassHealth on February 12, 2024 (Exhibit 4).
2. The appellant's application was denied due to a failure to provide verifications (Exhibit 1).
3. The missing verifications at issue were the appellant's private pension, annuity income and bank statements (Exhibit 4).
4. The appellant's representative submitted the requested verifications during the record-open period (Exhibits 5 & 6).

Analysis and Conclusions of Law

The applicant or member must cooperate with MassHealth in providing information necessary to establish and maintain eligibility, and must comply with all the rules and regulations of the MassHealth program including recovery (130 CMR 515.008(A)). If the requested information is not received, MassHealth benefits may be denied (130 CMR 516.001).

130 CMR 610.071 provides that evidence submitted at the hearing shall not be excluded. The date of eligibility is the date when the conditions of eligibility have been met, regardless of when the evidence was provided.

In the instant appeal, I have found that the appellant applied for MassHealth on February 12, 2024. The appellant's application was denied due to her failure to verify her private pension, annuity income and bank statements.

During the record-open period, the appellant provided the requested verifications.

Based upon the regulations cited above, and where the appellant provided MassHealth with the requested information, the appellant is entitled to a reopening of her application and a redetermination of eligibility.

The appeal is therefore approved.

Order for MassHealth

Reopen February 12, 2024 application and determine appellant's eligibility for MassHealth.

Implementation of this Decision

If this decision is not implemented within 30 days after the date of this notice, you should contact your local office. If you experience problems with the implementation of this decision, you should report this in writing to the Director of the Board of Hearings at the address on the first page of this decision.

Stanley M. Kallianidis
Hearing Officer
Board of Hearings

cc:



Taunton MEC