

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
APPEALS OFFICE

[REDACTED]

v.

DOCKET NO. 25-3110

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

DECISION

I. INTRODUCTION

A Microsoft Teams hearing on the above-entitled matter was held on August 21, 2025, and the Appellant declined the option of a video hearing. [REDACTED] (Appellant) initiated this matter to appeal a decision made by the Department of Human Services (DHS) regarding the termination of her Medicaid benefits. She is seeking to have DHS reinstate her MAGI Medicaid. For the reasons discussed in more detail below the Appellant's appeal is denied.

II. JURISDICTION

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is authorized and designated by R.I. General Laws (R.I.G.L.) §42-7.2-6.1 and the RI Code of Regulations 210-RICR-10-05-2 to be the principal entity responsible for appeals and hearings related to DHS programs, including the Medicaid Program. The administrative hearing was held in accordance

with the Administrative Procedures Act (R.I.G.L. §42-35-1 et. seq.) and EOHHS regulation 210-RICR-10-05-2.

III. ISSUE

The issue is whether the termination of Medicaid benefits due to exceeding the income limit was done in compliance with state regulations as set forth below.

IV. PARTIES AND EXHIBITS

Present for DHS was Glenda Ramos, Eligibility Technician III, who presented testimony regarding the case. DHS did not offer any documentary evidence for the hearing.

The Appellant appeared for the hearing and testified on her own behalf.

V. RELEVANT LAW/REGULATIONS

To be eligible for Medicaid using the Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) standards, an applicant's current monthly household income must meet the standard applicable to the to the applicant's Medicaid Affordable Care Coverage (MACC) group. For adults, that amount is 133% of the Federal Poverty Limit (FPL), and for children and young adults that amount is 261% of the FPL. 210-RICR-30-00-5.6(A).

An individual's household income for a MAGI Medicaid is the sum of the MAGI-based income of every individual in the household who is expected to file a tax return. 210-RICR-30-00-5B(2). Household income includes earned income, including wages and salaries performed for an employer. 218-RICR-1.5.2(A)(1)(a)(1). To calculate an applicant's income, if the applicant is paid weekly, the four paystubs are added together and divided by four to get a weekly average, then multiplied by 4.333 to get the monthly average. This is done to take into account months where there are five pay stubs. 218-RICR-20-00-1.6.8(C)(5)(a).

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is defined as the adjusted gross income adjusted by “above-the-line” deductions. It includes wages and salaries and a broad array of other sources. “Above-the-line” deductions are the adjustments people can make to their gross income, including alimony payments, interest on student loans, and other items that appear on page one of Form 1040, 210-RICR-30-00-5.B(1)(a).

VI. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Appellant's household consists of four, herself, her spouse, and two children.
2. The Appellant had previously received MAGI Medicaid.
3. DHS used the Appellant's spouse's employment income of \$4,215 from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to redetermine the household eligibility at the time of recertification.
4. The income standard for an adult for her household size is \$3,778.
5. The Appellant and her spouse are over the 133% of the FPL.
6. The Appellant's children have no income and therefore were accessed at 261% of the FPL and remain eligible for MAGI Medicaid.

VII. DISCUSSION

There is no dispute that the income used to calculate the Appellant's household monthly income is correct. Therefore, DHS stands by its position that the decision was correct and that the Appellant is no longer eligible.

The Appellant is no longer eligible for MA benefits due to exceeding the income limit of \$3,778 for the program. The Appellant argues that due to her varying medical conditions and after paying her rent and buying food she can not afford to pay for medical coverage.

MAGI Medicaid is based solely on the gross income of the household with the only deductions to adjust her gross income would include alimony payments and interest on student

loans. The Appellant makes no mention of such deductions; therefore, eligibility was determined on her household gross income alone. As such, the Appellant's household income of \$4,215 is over the income limit for MAGI Medicaid by \$437. There is no exception to this income limit based on the information provided by the Appellant.

VIII. CONCLUSION OF LAW

After careful consideration of the testimony and evidence presented at the Administrative Hearing, it is clear by a preponderance of evidence that:

1. DHS followed State and Federal Regulations when calculating the Appellant's gross income to redetermine the household's MAGI Medicaid eligibility.
2. The Appellant's household income of \$4,215 exceeded the gross income limit of \$3,778 for MAGI Medicaid.

IX. DECISION

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, evidence, and testimony it is found that a final order be entered that DHS was correct in the termination of Medicaid benefits due to exceeding the income limit.

APPEAL DENIED

/s/ Vermont Richardson

Appeals Officer

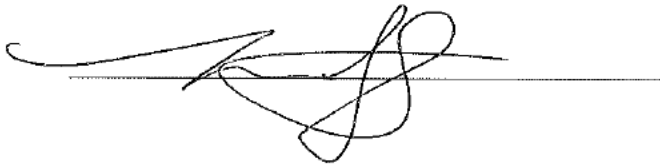
NOTICE OF APPELLANT RIGHTS

This final order constitutes a final order of the Department of Human Services pursuant to RI General Laws §42-35-12. Pursuant to RI General Laws §42-35-15, a final order may be appealed to the Superior Court sitting in and for the County of Providence within thirty (30) days

of the mailing date of this decision. Such appeal, if taken, must be completed by filing a petition for review in Superior Court. The filing of the complaint does not itself stay enforcement of this order. The agency may grant, or the reviewing court may order, a stay upon the appropriate terms.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that I mailed, via regular mail, postage prepaid, a true copy of the foregoing to [REDACTED]; copies were sent, via email, to [REDACTED] and to DHS Representatives Glenda Ramos, DHS Appeals Unit, Kirsten Cornford, and the DHS Policy Office on this 29th day of August, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'K' followed by a large loop and a horizontal line extending to the right.