

STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH P.O. Box 11729 Albany, NY 12211

#### **Notice of Decision**

Decision Date: September 22, 2017

NY State of Health Account ID: Appeal Identification Number: AP00000018808



On August 23, 2017, you appeared by telephone at a hearing on your appeal of NY State of Health's May 10, 2017 eligibility determination notice.

The enclosed Decision, rendered after that hearing, is issued by the Appeals Unit of NY State of Health.

If you have questions about your Decision, you can contact us by:

- Calling the Customer Service Center at 1-855-355-5777
- Sending Mail to:

NY State of Health Appeals P.O. Box 11729 Albany, NY 12211

Sending a Fax to 1-855-900-5557

When contacting NY State of Health about your appeal and/or the Decision, please refer to the Appeal Identification number and the NY State of Health Account ID at the top of this notice.

# **Legal Authority**

We are sending you this notice in accordance with 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 155.545.



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH P.O. Box 11729 Albany, NY 12211

#### **Decision**

Decision Date: September 22, 2017

NY State of Health Account ID:

Appeal Identification Number: AP00000018808



#### Issue

The issue presented for review by the Appeals Unit of NY State of Health is:

Did NY State of Health (NYSOH) properly determine that your child was not eligible for Medicaid in February 2017?

# **Procedural History**

On May 9, 2017, you submitted an application for financial assistance with health insurance and indicated that you were seeking help for paying for medical bills for your child for February and March 2017. That day, a preliminary determination was prepared stating that your child was not eligible for retroactive Medicaid for February or March 2017.

Also on May 9, 2017, you spoke to NYSOH's Account Review Unit and appealed that eligibility determination insofar as it denied retroactive Medicaid for your child for the month of February 2017.

On May 10, 2017, NYSOH issued an eligibility determination notice stating that your child was not eligible for Medicaid for February through March 2017 because the monthly household income of \$2,383.76 is over the allowable monthly income limit of \$2,058.00.

On August 23, 2017, you had a telephone hearing with a Hearing Officer from NYSOH's Appeals Unit. The record was developed during the hearing held open up to September 5, 2017, to allow you to submit supporting documents.

On September 5, 2017, NYSOH received the requested documentation and it was incorporated into the record as Appellant's Exhibit #1, the record was closed that day.

## **Findings of Fact**

A review of the record supports the following findings of fact:

- 1) You testified that you are seeking Medicaid for your child for February 2017 only.
- 2) You testified that you expect to file your 2017 federal income tax return as single, and claim one dependent.
- 3) You submitted an application for financial assistance on May 9, 2017.
- 4) NYSOH's system calculated your monthly income for February 2017 to be \$2,383.76. You testified that amount was incorrect.
- 5) You submitted documentation to NYSOH Appeals Unit in the form of two paystubs:
  - a. A paystub dated February 15, 2017 for pay period 1/26/17 to 2/10/2017 and is for a gross pay amount of \$983.40.
  - b. A paystub dated March 1, 2017 for pay period 2/11/2017 to 2/25/2017 is for a gross pay amount of \$892.44.
- 6) You testified that you do not plan on taking any deductions on your tax return

Conflicting evidence, if any, was considered and found to be less credible than the evidence noted above.

# Applicable Law and Regulations

#### Medicaid for Children

A child who is at least one year of age but younger than nineteen is eligible for Medicaid if he or she meets the non-financial criteria and has a household modified adjusted gross income that falls at or below 154% of the federal poverty level (FPL) for the applicable family size (42 CFR § 435.118(c); New York State Department of Social Services Administrative Directive 13 OHIP/ADM-03).

In the case of an individual who expects to file a tax return and does not expect to be claimed by another taxpayer, the household consists of the taxpayer and all persons whom such individual expects to claim as a tax dependent (42 CFR § 435.603(f)(1).

In an analysis of Medicaid eligibility, the determination is based on the FPL "for the applicable budget period used to determine an individual's eligibility" (42 CFR § 435.4). On the date of your application, that was the 2017 FPL, which is \$16,240.00 for a two-person household (82 Fed. Reg. 8831).

#### Retroactive Medicaid

The Department of Health must make Medicaid coverage start retroactively for up to three months prior to the month of an initial application if the individual received medical services that would have been covered under Medicaid and the individual would have been eligible for Medicaid at the time he received the services if he had applied (42 USCA § 1396A(34); 42 CFR § 435.915(a)). The Department of Health may make eligibility effective for fee-for-service Medicaid on the first day of the month if an individual was eligible any time during that month (42 CFR § 435.915(b)).

## **Legal Analysis**

The issue under review is whether NYSOH properly determined that your child was not eligible for Medicaid in February 2017.

Your child is in a two-person household; you file your taxes with a tax filing status of single and claim your child as a dependent on your tax return.

You submitted an application for financial assistance on May 9, 2017 and requested help in paying for medical bills for February and March 2017. You testified that you are seeking Medicaid for your child for February 2017 only through this appeal.

When an individual, files an initial application for Medicaid, his or her eligibility for retroactive Medicaid depends on the date of application. To this end, it does not matter whether or not that initial application resulted in Medicaid going forward. Instead, an individual, who has filed an initial application for Medicaid through NYSOH, has the right to be evaluated for Medicaid for the three months before the month of his or her application.

Medicaid coverage can be made effective retroactively for up to three months prior to an individual's initial application if the individual received medical services that would have been covered under Medicaid and if they would have been eligible for Medicaid in those three months had they applied.

You testified that you are seeking Medicaid for your child for February 2017.

Financial eligibility for Medicaid for applicants who are not currently receiving Medicaid benefits is based on current monthly household income and family size. To be eligible for Medicaid in February 2017, your child would have needed to meet the non-financial criteria and have an income no greater than 154% of the FPL, which is \$2,086.00 per month. There is no indication in the record that your child would have been ineligible for Medicaid based on non-financial criteria during February 2017.

NYSOH's system calculated your household's monthly income for February 2017 to be \$2,383.76. You testified that amount was incorrect. You submitted documentation to NYSOH Appeals Unit in the form of two paystubs. These paystubs show for the pay period of 1/26/17 to 2/10/2017 you earned a gross pay amount of \$983.40. This paystub has a check date of February 15, 2017 and is the only paystub you received in the month of February 2017. The second paystub you submitted covered hours worked in the remainder of February 2017 but was not dated for the month of February. Therefore, you only received one paycheck in February 2017 and your child's household for that month is \$983.40.

Since the record now contains a more accurate representation of your household's monthly income for February 2017, the amount listed in your May 9, 2017 application of \$2,383.76 is not supported by the record. Therefore, the May 10, 2017 eligibility determination notice is RESCINDED.

Your case is RETURNED to NYSOH to redetermine your child's eligibility for retroactive Medicaid for February 2017 based on a household size of two people and household income of \$983.40 for the month of February 2017.

#### Decision

The May 10, 2017 eligibility determination is RESCINDED.

Your case is RETURNED to NYSOH to redetermine your child's eligibility for retroactive Medicaid for February 2017 based on a household size of two people and household income of \$983.40 for the month of February 2017.

Effective Date of this Decision: September 22, 2017

# How this Decision Affects Your Eligibility

This is not a final determination of your child's eligibility. Your case is sent back to NYSOH to redetermine your child's eligibility based on the evidence you presented at the hearing.

## If You Disagree with this Decision (Appeal Rights)

This Decision is final unless you submit an appeal request to the Federal Marketplace or bring a lawsuit under New York Civil Practice Law and Rules, Article 78.

You may bring a lawsuit on any Appeals Unit decision in New York State court in accordance with Article 78 of the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules. This must be done within four months of the Decision Date, which appears on the first page of this Decision.

Additionally, Appeals Unit decisions on issues involving eligibility for qualified health plans, advance premium tax credits, and cost-sharing reductions may be appealed to the Federal Marketplace. This must be done within 30 days of the Decision Date, which appears on the first page of this Decision (45 CFR § 155.520(c)).

If you have questions about appealing to the Federal Marketplace, you can contact them in any of the following ways:

- By calling the Customer Service Center at 1-800-318-2596
- By mail at:

Health Insurance Marketplace Attn: Appeals 465 Industrial Blvd. London, KY 40750-0061

• By fax: 1-877-369-0129

If you wish to be represented by an attorney in bringing an outside appeal and do not know how to go about getting one, you may contact legal resources available to you. You may, for example, contact the local County Bar Association, Legal Aid, or Legal Services.

# If You Have Questions about this Decision (Customer Service Resources):

You can contact us in any of the following ways:

- By calling the Customer Service Center at 1-855-355-5777
- By mail at:

NY State of Health Appeals P.O. Box 11729 Albany, NY 12211

• By fax: 1-855-900-5557

## **Summary**

The May 10, 2017 eligibility determination is RESCINDED.

Your case is RETURNED to NYSOH to redetermine your child's eligibility for retroactive Medicaid for February 2017 based on a household size of two people and household income of \$983.40 for the month of February 2017.

This is not a final determination of your child's eligibility. Your case is sent back to NYSOH to redetermine your child's eligibility based on the evidence you presented at the hearing.

# **Legal Authority**

We are issuing this determination in accordance with 45 CFR § 155.545.

# A Copy of this Decision Has Been Provided To:



# **Getting Help in a Language Other than English**

This is an important document. If you need help to understand it, please call 1-855-355-5777. We can give you an interpreter for free in the language you speak.

#### **Español (Spanish)**

Este es un documento importante. Si necesita ayuda para entenderlo, llame al 1-855-355-5777. Le proporcionaremos un intérprete sin ningún costo.

#### 中文 (Traditional Chinese)

這是重要的文件。 如果您需要獲得關於瞭解文件內容方面的協助,請致電 1-855-355-5777。我們可以為您免費提供您所使用語言的翻譯人員。

#### Kreyòl Ayisyen (Haitian Creole)

Sa a se yon dokiman ki enpòtan. Si ou bezwen èd pou konprann li, tanpri rele nimewo 1-855-355-5777. Nou kapab ba ou yon entèprèt gratis nan lang ou pale a.

#### 中文 (Simplified Chinese)

这是一份重要的文件。如果您需要帮助理解此文件,请打电话至 **1-855-355-5777**。我们可以为您免费提供相应语种的口译服务。

#### Italiano (Italian)

Questo è un documento importante. Per qualsiasi chiarimento può chiamare il numero 1-855-355-5777. Possiamo metterle a disposizione un interprete nella sua lingua.

## <u>한국어 (Korean)</u>

중요한 서류입니다. 이해하는 데 도움이 필요하시면 1-855-355-5777 번으로 연락해 주십시오. 귀하의 언어에 대한 무료 통역 서비스가 제공됩니다.

#### Русский (Russian)

Это важный документ. Если Вам нужна помощь для понимания этого документа, позвоните по телефону 1-855-355-5777. Мы можем бесплатно предоставить Вам переводчика Вашего языка.

#### (Arabic)العربية

هذه وثيقة مهمة. إذا كنت بحاجة إلى مساعدة لفهم محتواها، يُرجى الاتصال بالرقم 5777-355-855-1. يُمكننا توفير مترجم فوري لك باللغة التي تتحدثها مجانًا.

#### বাংলা (Bengali)

এটি এক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ নিখি। এটি বুঝতে আপনার যদি সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয় তাহলে, অনুগ্রহ করে 1-855-355-5777 নম্বরে কল করুন। আপনি যে ভাষায় কথা বলেন বিনামূল্যে আমরা আপনাকে একজন দোভাষী দিতে পারি।

#### Français (French)

Ceci est un document important. Si vous avez besoin d'aide pour en comprendre le contenu, appelez le 1-855-355-5777. Nous pouvons mettre gratuitement à votre disposition un interprète dans votre langue.

#### हिंदी (Hindi)

यह एक महत्वपूर्ण दस्तावेज़ है। अगर आपको इसे समझने में सहायता चाहिए, तो कृपया 1-855-355-5777 पर कॉल करें। हम आपकी भाषा बोलने वाला एक दुभाषिया निःशुल्क उपलब्ध करवा सकते हैं।

## 日本語 (Japanese)

これは重要な書類です。理解するために支援が必要な場合は、1-855-355-5777 にお電話ください。通訳を無料で提供いたします。

## नेपाली (Nepali)

यो एउटा महत्त्वपूर्ण कागजात हो। यसलाई बुझ्न तपाईंलाई मद्दत चाहिन्छ भने, कृपया 1-855-355-5777 मा फोन गर्नुहोस्। हामीले तपाईंले बोल्ने भाषामा तपाईंलाई नि:शूल्क दोभाषे उपलब्ध गराउन सक्छों।

#### Polski (Polish)

To jest ważny dokument. W przypadku konieczności skorzystania z pomocy w celu zrozumienia jego treści należy zadzwonić pod numer 1-855-355-5777. Istnieje możliwość uzyskania bezpłatnej usługi tłumacza języka, którym się posługujesz.

#### Twi (Twi)

Krataa yi ye tow krataa a ho hia. Se wo hia eho nkyerekyeremu a, ye sre wo, fre 1-855-355-5777. yebetumi ama wo obi a okyere kasa a woka no ase ama wo kwa a wontua hwee.

#### اردو(Urdu)

یہ ایک اہم دستاویز ہے۔ اگر آپ کو اسے سمجھنے کے لیے مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو براہ کرم5777-355-485-1 پر کال کریں۔ ہم آپ کو آپ کی مادری زبان میں ایک مفت مترجم فراہم کر سکتے ہیں۔

#### Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

Đây là tài liệu quan trọng. Nếu quý vị cần trợ giúp để hiểu tài liệu này, vui lòng gọi 1-855-355-5777. Chúng tôi có thể cung cấp thông dịch viên miễn phí nói ngôn ngữ của quý vị.

#### אידיש (Yiddish)

דאס איז א וויכטיגער דאקומענט. אויב איר דארפט הילף עס צו פארשטיין, ביטע רופט 1-855-355-5777. מיר קענען אייך געבן א דאלמעטשער פריי פון אפצאל אין די שפראך וואס איר רעדט.