

STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PO Box 11729 Albany, NY 12211

#### Notice of Decision

Decision Date: March 20, 2018

NY State of Health Account ID:

Appeal Identification Number: AP000000026494



Dear ,

On March 12, 2018, you appeared by telephone at a hearing on your appeal of NY State of Health's December 20, 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 PO 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 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(b).



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#### Issues

The issues presented for review by the Appeals Unit of NY State of Health are:

Did NY State of Health (NYSOH) properly determine that you were eligible to enroll in the Essential Plan, effective January 1, 2018?

Did NYSOH properly determine that your child was eligible for Child Health Plus with a \$9.00 per month premium, effective February 1, 2018?

Did NYSOH properly determine that you and your child were not eligible for Medicaid?

# **Procedural History**

On December 4, 2017, NYSOH received an update to your application for health insurance with health insurance.

On December 5, 2017, NYSOH issued an eligibility determination notice stating that you were conditionally eligible for Medicaid; however, more income documentation was needed to verify your income. The notice did not indicate a due date by which documents were required to be provided to NYSOH, nor did it provide a determination with respect to your child's eligibility.

On December 19, 2017, NYSOH received four earnings statements issued to you by your employer, between December 1, 2017 and December 24, 2017.

On December 19, 2017, NSYOH redetermined your eligibility for financial assistance with health insurance.

On December 20, 2017, NYSOH issued an eligibility determination notice, stating that you were eligible to enroll in the Essential Plan, effective January 1, 2018. The notice further stated that your child was eligible for Child Health Plus (CHP), with a \$9.00 monthly premium, effective February 1, 2018.

On December 29, 2017, you contacted NYSOH's Account Review Unit and requested an appeal of that eligibility determination insofar as you and your child were not found eligible for Medicaid.

On March 12, 2018, you had a telephone hearing with a Hearing Officer from NYSOH's Appeals Unit. The record was developed during the hearing and closed at the end of the hearing.

## **Findings of Fact**

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

- 1) You testified that you expect to file your 2018 taxes with a tax filing status of head of household. You will claim your child as your sole dependent on that tax return.
- 2) You are seeking insurance for you and your child.
- 3) On December 19, 2017, you provided to NYSOH four earnings statements reflecting that you received \$540.00 per week between December 1, 2017 and December 24, 2017.
- 4) NYSOH redetermined your eligibility on December 19, 2017 based on the information contained in your account as of December 19, 2017.
- 5) Your December 19, 2017 redetermination, which requested financial assistance, listed annual household income of \$27,000.00, solely of income you receive from your employment with testified that this amount was correct.
- 6) Your child was redetermination of eligibility.
- 7) You that since you are paid once per week an unchanging amount of \$540.00, you received at least \$2,160.00 per month.
- 8) Your application states that you will not be taking any deductions on your 2018 tax return.

9) You live in Kings County, New York.

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

## Applicable Law and Regulations

#### **Essential Plan**

NYSOH must generally determine an applicant eligible for the Essential Plan, a basic health plan, if the person is (1) a resident of New York State, (2) expects to have a household income between 138% and 200% of the applicable federal poverty level (FPL) or, in the case of an individual who is a lawfully present noncitizen who is ineligible for Medicaid or Child Health Plus as a result of their immigration status, has a household income that is between 0% and 200% of the FPL, (3) is not otherwise eligible for minimum essential coverage except through the individual market, (4) is 64 years old or younger, (5) is a citizen or a lawfully present non-citizen, and (6) is not incarcerated (see 42 CFR § 600.305, 42 CFR § 435.603(d)(4), 45 CFR § 155.305(e), NY Social Services Law § 369-gg(3), 42 USC § 18051).

In an analysis of Essential Plan eligibility, the determination is based on the FPL in effect on the first day of the benefit year for which coverage is requested (45 CFR § 155.300(a)). On the date of your application, that was the 2017 FPL, which is \$16,240.00 for a two-person household (82 Federal Register 8831).

#### Child Health Plus

Child Health Plus (CHP) is a sliding-scale-premium program for children who are in a household that is over income for regular Medicaid (see New York Public Health Law (NY PHL) § 2510 et seq. and 42 USC § 1397aa). Eligibility rules are set out in NY PHL § 2511(2), as well as in the NYS Department of Health 2008-2012 Contract and Plan Manual.

A child who meets the eligibility requirements for CHP may be eligible to receive a subsidy payment if the child resides in a household with a household income at or below 400% of the federal poverty level (FPL) (NY PHL § 2511(2)(a)(iii)). To be eligible to enroll in CHP with subsidy payments, a child must not be "eligible for medical assistance"; that is, must not be eligible for Medicaid (NY PHL § 2511(2)(b)).

The CHP premium is \$9.00 per month for a child whose family household income is between 160% and 222% of the FPL, but no more than \$27.00 per month per family (NY PHL § 2510(9)(d)(ii)).

In an analysis of Child Health Plus 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 was \$16,240.00 for a two-person household (82 Fed. Reg. 8831).

#### **Medicaid**

Medicaid can be provided through NYSOH to adults who: (1) are age 19 or older and under age 65, (2) are not pregnant, (3) are not entitled to or enrolled for Medicare benefits under part A or B of title XVIII of the Act, (4) are not otherwise eligible for and enrolled for mandatory coverage under a State's Medicaid State plan in accordance with subpart B of this part, and (5) have a household modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) that is at or below 138% of the FPL for the applicable family size (42 CFR § 435.119(b), 42 CFR § 435.911(b)(1), 42 CFR § 435.603(d)(4)), NY Social Services Law § 366(1)(b)).

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 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 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 was \$16,240.00 for a two-person household (82 Fed. Reg. 8831).

Financial eligibility for Medicaid for applicants who are not currently receiving Medicaid benefits is based on current monthly household income and family size (42 CFR § 435.603(h)(1); State Plan Amendment (SPA) 13-0055-MM3, as approved March 19, 2014).

# Legal Analysis

The first issue under review is whether NYSOH properly determined that you were eligible for the Essential Plan, effective January 1, 2018.

The redetermination on December 19, 2017 listed an annual household income of \$27,000.00 and the eligibility determination relied upon that information.

You are in a two-person household. You expect to file your 2017 income taxes as head of household and will claim your child as your sole dependent on that tax return.

The Essential Plan is provided through NYSOH to individuals who meet the nonfinancial requirements and have a household modified adjusted gross income

(MAGI) that is between 138% and 200% of the FPL for the applicable family size. On the date of your application, the relevant FPL was \$16,240.00 for a two-person household. Since an annual household income of \$27,000.00 is 166.26% of the 2017 FPL, NYSOH properly found you to be eligible for the Essential Plan.

Medicaid can be provided through NYSOH to adults between the ages of 19 and 65 who meet the non-financial requirements and have a household modified adjusted gross income that is at or below 138% of the FPL for the applicable family size. On the date of your application, the relevant FPL was \$16,240.00for a two-person household. Since \$27,000.00 is 166.26% of the 2017 FPL, NYSOH properly found you to be not eligible for Medicaid on an expected annual income basis, using the information provided in your application.

The second issue under review is whether NYSOH properly determined that your child was eligible to enroll in CHP, effective February 1, 2018.

A child is eligible to enroll in CHP if they meet the non-financial requirements, are not eligible for Medicaid, and have a household income below 400% of the FPL. Households with an income between 160% and 222% of the FPL are responsible for a \$9.00 per month CHP premium payment. On the date of your application, the relevant FPL was \$16,240.00 for a two-person household. Since \$27,000.00 is 166.26% of the 2017 FPL, NYSOH properly found your child to be eligible for CHP with a \$9.00 per month premium payment.

The third issue under review is whether NYSOH properly determined that you and your child were not eligible for Medicaid.

Medicaid can be provided through NYSOH to adults between the ages of 19 and 65 who meet the non-financial requirements and have a household modified adjusted gross income that is at or below 138% of the FPL for the applicable family size, and for children between the ages of one and nineteen who are at or below 154% of the FPL for the applicable family size. On the date of your application, the relevant FPL was \$16,240.00 for a two-person household. Since \$27,000.00 is 166.26% of the 2017 FPL, NYSOH properly found you and your child to be not eligible for Medicaid on an expected annual income basis, using the information provided in your application.

However, financial eligibility for Medicaid for applicants who are not currently receiving Medicaid benefits is based on current monthly household income and family size.

You credibly testified, and provided documentation, that during the month of December 2017, you received at least \$2,160.00.

To be eligible for Medicaid, you and your child would need to meet the non-financial criteria and have an income no greater than 138% and 154% of the FPL, respectively, which is \$1,868.00 and \$2,085.00 per month. Since the

documentation you provided shows that you earned at least \$2,160.00 in December 2017 you and your child do not qualify for Medicaid based on monthly income as of the date of your application.

Since the December 20, 2017 eligibility determination notice properly stated that you were found eligible for the Essential Plan, your child was eligible for CHP with a \$9.00 monthly premium, and neither of you were eligible for Medicaid, it is correct and is AFFIRMED.

#### Decision

The December 20, 2017 eligibility determination is AFFIRMED.

Effective Date of this Decision: March 20, 2018

## **How this Decision Affects Your Eligibility**

You were eligible for the Essential Plan effective January 1, 2018.

Your child was found eligible for CHP with a \$9.00 monthly premium, effective February 1, 2018.

You and your child were not eligible for Medicaid.

# If You Disagree with this Decision (Appeal Rights)

If applicable, if you think a portion of your appeal should not be dismissed, you can ask us to vacate, or cancel, this dismissal. You must ask us in writing within 30 days after the date on this notice, showing good cause as to why the dismissal should be vacated. NYSOH's Appeals Unit will review your request. If your request is approved, another hearing will be scheduled for you. If your request is denied, NYSOH will tell you in writing. If you do not respond to the dismissed portion of your appeal within 30 days, your appeal will remain dismissed, and NYSOH will take no further action on your appeal.

Insofar as your case was decided, the 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 PO Box 11729 Albany, NY 12211

• By fax: 1-855-900-5557

### **Summary**

The December 20, 2017 eligibility determination is AFFIRMED.

You were eligible for the Essential Plan effective January 1, 2018.

Your child was found eligible for CHP with a \$9.00 monthly premium, effective February 1, 2018.

You and your child were not eligible for Medicaid.

# **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.

#### <u>中文 (Traditional Chinese)</u>

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.

#### 한국어 (Korean)

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 تتحدثما محانًا

#### বাংলা (Bengali)

এটি এক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ নথি। 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 کرم5777-355-855-1 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.