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

Notice of Decision

Decision Date: April 5, 2018

NY State of Health Account ID: [redacted]
Appeal Identification Number: AP000000028121

[redacted]

[redacted],

On March 19, 2018, you appeared by telephone at a hearing on your appeal of NY State of Health's February 1, 2018 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.

If you need this information in a language other than English or you need assistance reading this notice, we can help you. Call 1-855-355-5777 (TTY - English: 1-800-662-1220) (TTY – Spanish: 1-877-662-4886).

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

Decision

Decision Date: April 5, 2018

NY State of Health Account ID: [redacted]
Appeal Identification Number: AP000000028121

[redacted]

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 you, your spouse, and your children were eligible for the Essential Plan with a $20.00 per month premium each, effective March 1, 2018?

Procedural History

On January 31, 2018, you applied for health insurance and financial assistance for your family through NYSOH.

That day, a preliminary eligibility determination was prepared stating you, your spouse, and your children were eligible for the Essential Plan with a $20.00 per month premium each, effective March 1, 2018.

Also on January 31, 2018, you spoke to NYSOH's Account Review Unit and appealed that preliminary eligibility determination notice insofar as your family was not eligible for an increased amount of financial assistance.

On February 1, 2018, NYSOH issued an eligibility determination notice stating that you, your spouse, and your children were eligible for the Essential Plan with a $20.00 per month premium each, effective March 1, 2018. That notice also stated that you were not eligible for Medicaid because your annual household income was over the allowable income limit for that program.

On March 19, 2018, you had a telephone hearing with a Hearing Officer from NYSOH's Appeals Unit. The record was developed during the hearing and held open to April 3, 2018, to allow you time to submit supporting documents.

On March 19, 2018, NYSOH received your supporting documents by fax. The documents were made part of the record as Appellant's Exhibit #1 and the record was closed.

Findings of Fact

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

1) You testified that you expect to file your tax return for 2018 with a tax filing status of married filing jointly. You will claim two dependents on that tax return.

2) You are seeking insurance for your household; specifically, the Essential Plan with a $0.00 per month premium.

3) The application that was submitted on January 31, 2018, listed annual household income of $40,000.00, consisting of $25,000.00 you earn from your employment and $15,000.00 your spouse earns from her employment. You testified that since you filed your taxes, the income listed in your application is no longer correct.

4) You submitted a copy of your 2017 1040 and tax return. Your and your spouse's tax return shows business income of $14,349.00, rental real estate loss of $7,733.00, and deductions of $1,070.00. Line 37 indicates that your household's adjusted gross income for 2017 was $5,546.00.

5) You testified that you expect your adjusted gross income to be about the same in 2018 as it was in 2017.

6) You testified that you expect to take business expense deductions in 2018.

7) Your application states that your family lives in Westchester County, NY.

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 FPL or, in the case of an individual who is a lawfully present non-citizen 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 $24,600.00 for a four-person household (82 Federal Register 8831).

A person who has a household income that is at or below 150% of the FPL has a $0.00 premium contribution (New York's Basic Health Plan Blueprint, p. 21, as approved January 2016; see https://www.medicaid.gov/basic-health-program/downloads/ny-blueprint.pdf).

A person who has a household income greater than 150% of the FPL or below 200% of the FPL has a $20.00 per month premium contribution (New York's Basic Health Plan Blueprint, as approved January 2016).

The Essential Plan is considered minimum essential coverage; therefore, a person who is eligible for the Essential Plan is not eligible for any premium tax credit because they are eligible for minimum essential coverage through the individual market (*see* 26 CFR § 1.36B-2(c)(1), 26 USC § 5000A(f)(1)(C)).

Legal Analysis

The first issue under review is whether NYSOH properly determined you, your spouse, and your children eligible for the Essential Plan with a $20.00 per month premium each, effective March 1, 2018.

The application that was submitted on January 31, 2018, listed an annual household income of $40,000.00 and the eligibility determination relied upon that information.

Your family is in a four-person household for purposes of this analysis. This is because you expect to file your 2018 income tax return as married filing jointly and will claim two dependents on that tax return.

The Essential Plan is generally provided through NYSOH to individuals who meet the non-financial requirements and have a household modified adjusted gross income that is between 138% and 200% of the FPL for the applicable family size. A person who has a household income that is at or below 150% of the FPL has a $0.00 premium contribution and a person who has a household income greater than 150% of the FPL or below 200% of the FPL has a $20.00 per month premium contribution.

On the date of your application, the relevant FPL was $24,600.00 for a four-person household. Since an annual household income of $40,000.00 is 162.6% of the 2017 FPL, NYSOH correctly found you, your spouse, and your children to be eligible for the Essential Plan with a $20.00 per month premium each.

Since the February 1, 2018 eligibility determination notice properly stated that, based on the information you provided, you, your spouse, and your children were eligible for the Essential Plan with a $20.00 per month premium, it is correct and is AFFIRMED.

However, you testified that since you filed your 2017 taxes, the income listed in your application is no longer correct. You submitted a copy of your 2017 Form 1040 tax return. Your and your spouse's tax return shows business income of $14,349.00, rental real estate loss of $7,733.00, and deductions of $1,070.00. Line 37 on Form 1040 indicates that your household's adjusted gross income for 2017 was $5,546.00. You testified that you expect your adjusted gross income to be about the same in 2018.

Therefore, your case is RETURNED to NYSOH to redetermine eligibility for financial assistance for you, your spouse, and your children based on a household size of four with an annual expected gross income of $5,546.00, for a family residing in Westchester County.

Decision

The February 1, 2018 eligibility determination notice is AFFIRMED.

Your case is RETURNED to NYSOH to redetermine eligibility for financial assistance for you, your spouse, and your children based on a household size of four with an annual expected gross income of $5,546.00, for a family residing in Westchester County.

Effective Date of this Decision: April 5, 2018

How this Decision Affects Your Eligibility

You, your spouse, and your children were properly determined eligible for the Essential Plan with a $20.00 per month premium each, effective March 1, 2018.

This is not a final determination of your household's eligibility.

Your case is being sent back to NYSOH to redetermine your household's eligibility based on the completed record and parameters noted above.

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.

If you need this information in a language other than English or you need assistance reading this notice, we can help you. Call 1-855-355-5777 (TTY - English: 1-800-662-1220) (TTY – Spanish: 1-877-662-4886).

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 February 1, 2018 eligibility determination notice is AFFIRMED.

You, your spouse, and your children were properly determined eligible for the Essential Plan with a $20.00 per month premium, effective March 1, 2018.

This is not a final determination of your household's eligibility.

Your case is RETURNED to NYSOH to redetermine eligibility for financial assistance for you, your spouse, and your children based on a household size of four with an annual expected gross income of $5,546.00, for a family residing in Westchester County.

Legal Authority

We are sending you this notice in accordance with 45 CFR § 155.545.

A Copy of this Decision Has Been Provided To:

[redacted]

If you need this information in a language other than English or you need assistance reading this notice, we can help you. Call 1-855-355-5777 (TTY - English: 1-800-662-1220) (TTY – Spanish: 1-877-662-4886).

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.

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.

العربية (Arabic)

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

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।

If you need this information in a language other than English or you need assistance reading this notice, we can help you. Call 1-855-355-5777 (TTY - English: 1-800-662-1220) (TTY – Spanish: 1-877-662-4886).

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:शुल्क दोभाषे उपलब्ध गराउन सक्छौं।

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 yɛ tow krataa a ho hia. Sɛ wo hia ɛho nkyerɛkyerɛmu a, yɛ srɛ wo, frɛ 1-855-355-5777. yƐbƐtumi ama wo obi a ɔkyerƐ 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 کرم1-855-355-5777 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.

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