

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Chris Christie Governor

Kim Guadagno Lt. Governor Division of Family Development P.O. Box 716 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Jennifer Velez Commissioner

Jeanette Page-Hawkins Director Tel. (609) 588-2000

The following Decision is distributed for your information. This Decision has been made in consideration of the specific facts of this case. This Decision is not to be interpreted as establishing any new mandatory policy or procedure otherwise officially promulgated.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

FINAL DECISION

OAL DKT, NO. HPW 12316-14 A.T.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA484504 (MIDDLESEX COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's termination of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") and Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 5, 2014, the Honorable Leland S. McGee, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On January 22, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision which affirmed the Agency determination.

No exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the record in this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision, and having made an independent evaluation of the record, I ADOPT the Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency determination.

Benefits for WFNJ/GA recipients are determined according to standards of countable income and resources. N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.1(a). Countable "income" broadly refers to earned or unearned income and in relevant part includes, but is not limited to, Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance ("RSDI") benefits. N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.9(b). Financial eligibility for an unemployable assistance unit exists so long as total countable income is less than the applicable WFNJ/GA benefit level set forth in N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.6(a). In the case of an unemployable WFNJ/GA assistance unit with one individual, such as Petitioner, the maximum benefit payment level is

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\$210.00. N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.6. Stated otherwise, Petitioner is no longer eligible for WFNJ/GA benefits because the amount of his RSDI benefits, \$1,004.00, is greater than the maximum benefit payment level of \$210.00. Initial Decision at 2-3. Because Petitioner is no longer eligible for WFNJ/GA benefits, he is no longer eligible for EA benefits. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a). Based upon the foregoing uncontroverted material facts, I concur with the ALJ that the Agency appropriately terminated WFNJ/GA and EA benefits.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is ADOPTED and the Agency determination is AFFIRMED.

MAR 09 2015 Signed Copy on File at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins Director