



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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Acting Commissioner

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Lt. Governor

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Assistant Commissioner

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 01558-21 H.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. S928380009 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance, and Emergency Assistance ("EA"), benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits because his total monthly income put him over the maximum allowable benefit level for WFNJ/GA benefits, and the Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits because he was no longer a Work First New Jersey ("WFNJ") benefits recipient, nor was he a Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") benefits recipient. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On February 16, 2021, the Honorable John P. Scollo, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On February 17, 2021, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the ALJ found that the Agency had properly terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/General Assistance ("GA") benefits upon learning that he had been receiving Unemployment Insurance Benefits ("UIB"), the receipt of which put him over the WFNJ/GA benefits income eligibility level for receipt of said benefits. See Initial Decision at 2-4; see also Exhibit R-2 at 4, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.3(b), -3.5(b). Therefore, because Petitioner was no longer a WFNJ benefits recipient, nor an SSI benefits recipient, the ALJ also found that Petitioner was ineligible for EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a). Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's termination of Petitioner's WFNJ/GA and EA benefits was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also Exhibit R-1. I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the ALJ's Initial Decision, and following an independent review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's final conclusion in this matter and hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law.

By way of comment, the Agency shall refer Petitioner to any and all agencies and organizations that may be able to assist with his current needs, including Social Services for the Homeless.



By way of further comment, Petitioner is without prejudice to reapply for WFNJ benefits at such time as his UIB ends.

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

Officially approved final version.

MAR 04 2021

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

