



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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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 05445-21 R.F.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C211275009 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits, contending that she had exhausted her 12-month lifetime limit of EA benefits and did not qualify for an extension of such benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On July 2, 2021, the Honorable William T. Cooper, III, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On July 2, 2021, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the ALJ found that at the time Petitioner had applied for EA benefits she had already exhausted her 12-month lifetime limit of EA benefits, and did not qualify for an extension of EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2-3; see also Exhibit R-1, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a). Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's denial of EA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 3.

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, Petitioner is advised that she may apply for an extreme hardship extension of EA benefits, if she has not done so already. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(b).

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

Officially approved final version.

AUG 5 2021

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

