



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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NATASHA JOHNSON
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 **02155-23 J.P.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C072366008 (GLOUCESTER COUNTY DIV. OF SOC. SVCS.)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits, contending that he failed to provide required documentation. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On April 14, 2023, the Honorable Tama B. Hughes, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On April 28, 2023, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the ALJ found that the Agency had properly noticed Petitioner regarding the specific documentation required to be provided to the Agency in order for it to determine his eligibility for WFNJ/GA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2, 4; see also Exhibit R-1 at 24, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5). The ALJ also found that Petitioner had failed to provide all the required documentation, specifically the required MED-1 form, within the time period required for submission of said documents. See Initial Decision at 2-4; see also Exhibit R-1 at 25-40, 46, 51-52. Further, the record reflects that the Agency had received Petitioner's MED-1 form on March 7, 2023, which was several months after the Agency's denial of WFNJ/GA benefits to Petitioner. See Initial Decision at 2, 5; see also Exhibit R-1 at 40-42, 53-54. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that that Agency's denial of WFNJ/GA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 4-5; see also Exhibit R-1 at 41-42. 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, Petitioner is advised that he may reapply for WFNJ/GA benefits, if he has not already done so.

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



Officially approved final version.

June 22, 2023

Natasha Johnson

Assistant Commissioner

