



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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NATASHA JOHNSON
Director

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 15662-18 E.E.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C295651007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

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 the Agency with the documentation it had requested in order to determine his eligibility. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 13, 2018, the Honorable Kimberly A. Moss, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On November 14, 2016, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that Petitioner applied for WFNJ/GA benefits on July 26, 2018. See Initial Decision at 2. On that same date, Petitioner was given a Notice of Verification, indicating that he must provide to the Agency, among other items, a letter of support, a letter of residency, and address verification. Ibid., see also Exhibit R-2. Petitioner was also advised that he must provide the requested documents by August 8, 2018. Ibid. By notice dated August 27, 2018, the Agency denied Petitioner's application for WFNJ/GA benefits, because he had failed to provide the Agency with a letter of support, and proof of residency. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5). Although Petitioner contended that he had provided the Agency with the required documentation prior to the Agency's denial, the ALJ found that the evidence provided by Petitioner at the hearing did not substantiate his claim. See Initial Decision at 2. Accordingly, the ALJ found that the Agency had properly denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits. Id. at 3. I agree.

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 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 in this matter.

By way of comment, Petitioner may reapply for WFNJ/GA benefits, provided he continues to need said benefits, but is advised that he will need to provide all documentation requested by the Agency.

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



Officially approved final version.

DEC 20 2010

Natasha Johnson
Director



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