



State of New Jersey

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Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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CAROLE JOHNSON
Commissioner

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Lt. Governor

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 13722-18 K.C.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C150997016 (PASSAIC COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits in the form of a security deposit. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits contending that she has exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On September 27, 2018, the Honorable John P. Scollo, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On September 28, 2018, the ALJ issue an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed by counsel, on behalf of Petitioner, on October 5, 2018.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have reviewed the ALJ's Initial Decision and the record, and I hereby ADOPT the ALJ's Initial Decision, and AFFIRM the Agency's determination.

Here, the ALJ found, and Petitioner acknowledged, that she has received 24 months of EA benefits, and as such, that she has exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions. See Initial Decision at 4; see also Exhibit R-1 at 2-8, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a), (b), (d). Further, I find that because Petitioner is not eligible for Temporary Rental Assistance due to exhaustion of her EA benefits, that she is therefore not eligible for the security deposit that she has requested. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.3(b). Based on the foregoing, I concur with the ALJ's conclusion that the Agency's denial of further EA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 8; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a), (b), (d).

By way of comment, I have reviewed the Exceptions submitted on behalf of Petitioner, and I find that the arguments made therein do not alter my decision in this matter.

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



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

Officially approved final version.

OCT 11 2018

Natasha Johnson

Director

