



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 **03359-22 D.F.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C812665007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey ("WFNJ") cash assistance benefits, Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ, EA, and SNAP benefits, contending that he had failed to provide documentation required to determine eligibility for said benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On May 2, 2022, the Honorable William J. Courtney, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On May 3, 2022, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the ALJ found that Petitioner had applied for WFNJ, EA, and SNAP benefits, and as part of that application process, he was required to provide certain documentation required to determine eligibility for said benefits. See Initial Decision at 1-3; see also Exhibit R-1 at 16, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5). Petitioner acknowledged having received written notification of the documentation required to be provided to the Agency. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 16. The ALJ found that Petitioner had failed to provide all required documentation. See Initial Decision at 3. Specifically, the ALJ found that Petitioner had failed to provide the Agency with his birth certificate, required to establish proof of citizenship. Id. at 2-3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.10(a). Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's denial of WFNJ, EA, and SNAP benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also Exhibit R-1 at 6-10. 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, EA, and SNAP benefits, but is reminded that he must provide the Agency with all documentation required to determine is eligibility for said benefits. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5).



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

Officially approved final version.

May 10, 2022

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

