



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

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 **08786-22 M.H.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C157365009 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF"), and Emergency Assistance ("EA"), benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/TANF and EA benefits, contending that she failed to provide required documentation. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On October 7, 2022, the Honorable Thomas R. Betancourt, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

Also on October 7, 2022, 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 her eligibility for WFNJ/TANF and EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2-4; see also Exhibits R-3 at 5, R-9, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5), -6.3(a)(1)(ii). The ALJ also found that Petitioner had failed to provide all the required documentation within the 30-day time period required for submission of said documents. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also Exhibit R-11. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that that Agency's denial of WFNJ/TANF and EA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also Exhibits R-3 at 1-4, R-4, R-8. I agree. Further, although not the basis for the Agency's denial of EA benefits, the ALJ also found that Petitioner was ineligible for EA benefits on the basis that she is not a WFNJ or Supplemental Security Income benefits recipient. See Initial Decision at 4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a). I also 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 she may reapply for WFNJ benefits but must supply all required information and documentation necessary to determine eligibility.

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



Officially approved final version.

October 13, 2022

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

