



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 **08148-22 M.M.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **S607178012 (MIDDLESEX COUNTY BD. 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 she 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 October 18, 2022, the Honorable Joan M. Burke, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On November 3, 2022, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that Petitioner had applied for WFNJ/GA benefits, and as part of that application process she had stated that she had a bank savings and checking account. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 9. Accordingly, Petitioner was required, among other documents, to provide bank account documentation to the Agency, needed to determine her eligibility for said benefits. See Initial Decision at 2, 4; see also Exhibit R-2, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.6(a), -2.2(a)(5). The ALJ found, and the Agency acknowledged, that Petitioner had provided all requested documents except for the required bank statement documentation. See Initial Decision at 3-4, 6; see also Exhibit P-2. Petitioner admitted that she had failed to provide the bank statement documentation. *Id.* at 7. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner had failed to provide all required documentation, and therefore, the Agency's denial of WFNJ/GA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. *Id.* at 5-7; see also Exhibit R-5, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.2(b), -1.6(a), -2.2(a)(5), -2.2(a)(d). I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

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/GA benefits, but is reminded that she must provide the Agency with all documentation required to determine 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.

December 01, 2022

Natasha Johnson

Assistant Commissioner

