



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716

SARAH ADELMAN
Commissioner

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

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 **03802-25 C.G.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **S968655009 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") and Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits, contending that her income exceeded the WFNJ/GA benefits financial eligibility limits, and terminated Petitioner EA benefits because she was neither a WFNJ cash benefits recipient, nor a Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") benefits recipient. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On March 3, 2025, the Honorable William J. Courtney, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On March 4, 2025, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determinations. Here, the ALJ found, and the record substantiates that, upon a redetermination for continued WFNJ/GA benefits, it was determined that Petitioner received monthly earned income from employment totaling \$3,000. See Initial Decision at 2. In accordance with applicable regulatory authority, the ALJ found that Petitioner's monthly income of \$3,000 exceeded the maximum allowable income level of \$185 for continued receipt of WFNJ/GA benefits. *Ibid.*; see also Exhibit R-1, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.4(a), (b), -3.5(a), (b), and Division of Family Development Informational Transmittal ("DFD IT") No. 19-21. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's termination of WFNJ/GA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-1. I agree.

The ALJ further found that, because Petitioner is not a WFNJ or SSI benefits recipient, she is ineligible for EA benefits, and as such, concluded that Agency's termination of Petitioner's EA benefits was also proper and must be affirmed. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-1, and 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.

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



Officially approved final version. March 11, 2025

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

