

FINAL DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HMA 10219-24 AGENCY DKT. NO. N/A

T.P.,

Petitioner,

٧.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES,

Respondent.

T.P., appearing pro se

Modupeola Daramola, supervisor, appearing for respondent Union County Board of Social Services pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:1-5.4(a)(3)

Record Closed: December 13, 2024

Decided: May 13, 2025

BEFORE ANDREW M. BARON, ALJ:

STATEMENT OF THE CASE AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Petitioner appeals a determination terminating eligibility for New Jersey Age, Blind and Disabled program based on excess income.

DISCUSSION

Based upon the testimony, I FIND the following facts:

Petitioner, age 46 at the time of review, filed for continued coverage under the New Jersey Age Blind and Disabled program. A Request for Verification letter seeking additional documents and information was sent out. Thereafter, on June 18, 2024, the Division determined that petitioner was over the maximum allowable monthly income limit, with coverage scheduled to end.

Essentially, petitioner, cooperated and submitted financial documents as required under the statutes and regulations in accordance with N.J.A.C. 10:71-4.1 et seq.

At the time of application, the maximum allowable income was \$2,266.00 for a household of two. Combining her unemployment at the time plus income, her total income \$3,293.00 a month, in excess of the maximum allowable limit.

Petitioner contends that her monthly net income is less than the maximum amount due to the fact that her rent and other household bills were not counted, even though it was explained to her that such expenses do not entitle her to deductions towards the maximum limit. She also believes that her son's income should be treated separately.

Other than standard income deductions of \$20.00 and \$65.00 a month respectively, Medicaid does not have an additional miscellaneous deduction for an overpayment that is being paid from Social Security Disability benefits.

I THEREFORE FIND for purposes of this application, that the Division correctly determined that at the time of re-certification, petitioner was not eligible under the income limits of the program.

Despite the determination here that she I not eligible for AB&D due to excess income petitioner is not precluded from looking into the possibility of continued coverage

under either the Workability Program provided it does not interfere with her Disability, and/or the MLTSS Program depending on the level of assistance she requires.

Another proposed option suggested to petitioner in order to secure continued coverage was the Get Covered New Jersey program.

LEGAL ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

In this matter, the only dispute is whether the Division correctly determined that petitioner was not eligible to receive benefits at the time of application for the New Jersey family care Program due to excess income.

N.J.A.C. 10:71-5.1 establishes financial eligibility standards for applicants.

Under subsection (b), Income is defined as receipt, by the individual, of any property or service which he or she can apply, either directly or indirectly or by sale or conversion, to meet his or her basic needs of food and shelter. All household income, whether in cash or in kind, shall be considered in the determination of eligibility, unless such income is exempt under N.J.A.C. 10:71-5.3.

Earned income is defined as payment received by an individual for services performed as an employee. Unearned income is defined as any income which is not coincident with the provisions set forth above.

N.J.A.C. 10:71-5.1 et seq. differentiates between earned income as gross income, and net income as self-employment income.

On the basis of the facts set forth above, I **CONCLUDE** that the Division correctly determined that at the time of re-certification, petitioner was not eligible to receive benefits due to excess income.

ORDER

Based upon the foregoing, it is **ORDERED** that the decision of the agency to deny petitioner's application for benefits is hereby **AFFIRMED**.

I FILE this initial decision with the ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES. This recommended decision is deemed adopted as the final agency decision under 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(e)(14)(A) and N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10(f). The ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES cannot reject or modify this decision.

If you disagree with this decision, you have the right to seek judicial review under New Jersey Court Rule 2:2-3 by the Appellate Division, Superior Court of New Jersey, Richard J. Hughes Complex, PO Box 006, Trenton, New Jersey 08625. A request for judicial review must be made within 45 days from the date you receive this decision. If you have any questions about an appeal to the Appellate Division, you may call (609) 815-2950.

May 13, 2025	Marsher Ben
DATE	ANDREW M. BARON, ALJ
Date Received at Agency:	May 13, 2025
Mailed to Parties:	

APPENDIX

LIST OF WITNESSES

For Petitioner:

T.P.

For Respondent:

Modupeola Daramola

LIST OF EXHIBITS IN EVIDENCE

For Petitioner:

None

For Respondent

R-1 Division notice of denial with explanation