



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
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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 64-15 L.T.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C185806 (UNION COUNTY DIVISION OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's termination of her Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's benefits, as it contended that Petitioner had exhausted her cumulative lifetime limit. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On January 8, 2015, the Honorable JoAnn Lasala Candido, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents. On the same day, the ALJ issued her Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the record in this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision and I ADOPT the ALJ's decision and AFFIRM the Agency action.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.3(a), "eligibility for cash assistance benefits shall be limited to a lifetime total of 60 cumulative months for an adult recipient." An individual may receive additional months of cash assistance if he/she qualifies for an exemption to, or extension of, the time limit, as set forth at N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.4 and 2.5 respectively.

I agree with the ALJ that Petitioner, having received seventy eight (78) months of WFNJ/TANF benefits, has exhausted her lifetime limit. See Initial Decision at 2.

In addition, although not addressed by the ALJ in the Initial Decision, the transmittal in this matter also indicates that Petitioner is contesting a denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner's request for EA on December 30, 2014. See Exhibit R-1 at 1. Since Petitioner is no longer a WFNJ/TANF recipient, and is not a Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") applicant/recipient, she is not eligible to receive EA benefits. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a).

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is ADOPTED and the Agency's action is hereby AFFIRMED.

Signed Copy on File

at DFD, BARA

JAN 20 2015

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director