



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 13337-14 M.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C074911 (ATLANTIC CO. DEPT OF FAM. & COM. DEV)

Petitioner challenges the correctness of Respondent Agency's reduction in his Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a the Food Stamp Program, benefits. The Agency maintains that Petitioner's SNAP benefits were reduced due to a lack of current medical expenses, which resulted in removal of the medical deduction from the calculation to determine the correct benefit amount. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 3, 2014, the Honorable Bruce M. Gorman, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents into evidence. On November 21, 2014, the ALJ issued his Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed by either party.

As the Director of the 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 decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter. As the Petitioner was unable to establish current medical expenses, the Agency appropriately removed the medical deduction from the calculation of his SNAP benefit amount. N.J.A.C. 10:87-5.10(a)(3).

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

NOV 28 2014

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director