



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 9306-15 S.W.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA102111 (ATLANTIC CO. DEPT OF FAM. & COM. DEV)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of an extension of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits under the Housing Assistance Program ("HAP") pilot. The Agency denied Petitioner an extension of EA benefits under HAP because he did not meet the criteria required for HAP eligibility. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On September 22, 2015, the Honorable W. Todd Miller, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On September 30, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The record indicates that Petitioner is a Work First New Jersey/General Assistance recipient, who has received 47 months of EA benefits, which is well beyond the 12 month lifetime limit of EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4. Petitioner applied for an extension of EA benefits under HAP, prior to the expiration of that pilot program on July 2, 2015, but was denied because he did not meet the HAP eligibility criteria. See Initial Decision at 1-2, 6. Specifically, the record indicates that Petitioner has not applied for Supplemental Security Income benefits, and does not have a MED-1 form indicating at least a 12-month disability, both of which are required for HAP eligibility. *Id.* at 7; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.10(a)(1)(i). Accordingly, the ALJ found that Petitioner had exhausted his EA benefits, and was not eligible for an extension of EA under HAP. *Ibid.*

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 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 in this matter.

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

OCT 27 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director