



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 8807-14 S.Y.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C207540 (UNION COUNTY DIVISION OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits because she failed to participate in the WFNJ 28-day work activity requirement. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On August 1, 2014, the Honorable Irene Jones, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On December 18, 2014, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, which affirmed the Agency's action.

No exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have reviewed the ALJ's Initial Decision and the record, and I ADOPT the ALJ's Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency's determination.

Eligibility for WFNJ/GA cash assistance benefits shall commence after the applicant has completed a minimum of 28 days in an employment-related activity through Labor and Workforce Development. N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(2). An applicant's failure to comply with the employment-related activity requirements, without good cause, shall result in a denial of the applicant's WFNJ/GA application and a 30-day period of ineligibility. N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.2(f)(8).

The ALJ found Petitioner did not credibly refute the Agency's testimony that she failed to comply with her 28-day work activity. See Initial Decision at 3. Further, Petitioner's Application Job Search Document indicates that she only completed three weeks (21 days) of her 28-day work activity requirement. See Exhibit P-1. Accordingly, I concur with the ALJ's finding that Petitioner is not eligible for WFNJ/GA benefits because she failed to complete her 28-day work activity required job searches. See Initial Decision at 3. Further, I agree with the ALJ that Petitioner abandoned her appeal by leaving the hearing before it was concluded. Id. at 2-3.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is ADOPTED and the Agency action AFFIRMED.

**JAN 28 2015**

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

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Jeanette Page-Hawkins  
Director