



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 6131-15 T.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C302926 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's denial of her application for an extension of Emergency Assistance ("EA"). The Agency denied Petitioner's application for EA on the basis that Petitioner had exhausted her 12-month lifetime limit and two extreme hardship extensions. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On May 28, 2015, the Honorable Richard McGill, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents into evidence.

On May 29, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision affirming the Agency determination. Petitioner applied for Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") benefits on April 15, 2015, but her application was denied. See Initial Decision at 2. The ALJ noted that Petitioner has previously received at least 12 months of EA benefits and is not currently a WFNJ recipient. *Ibid.* In addition, there is no indication Petitioner has applied for or receives Supplemental Security Income ("SSI"). *Ibid.* Therefore, the ALJ concluded Petitioner is not eligible for EA. *Ibid.*

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.

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

JUN 10 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director