

B-93



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE
ACTION OF THE
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Anand Chickkala,
Software Development Specialist 3
(PS1155K), Department of Human
Services

Examination Appeal

CSC Docket No. 2016-4296

ISSUED: DEC 13 2016

(RE)

Anand Chickkala requests admittance to the promotional examination for Software Development Specialist 3 (PS1155K), Department of Human Services.

The subject examination was announced on May 1, 2016, and the application deadline date was May 23, 2016. Only on-line applications were accepted, and the appellant did not submit one. Seven candidates were admitted.

In his request, Mr. Chickkala argued that he missed the filing deadline as he was involved in an important project at work and was dealing with a family member's serious health issue. Staff responded that candidates had three weeks to file their online applications. The announcement instructed candidates that online applications must be completed and submitted by the closing date, and it provided information regarding customer care and technical support, including asking candidates to please file early. The appellant could have completed the on-line application at any time during those three weeks, and mailed in any attachments.

The appellant responded that he was dealing with the health issues of his mother, who has since passed away in India, and had a heavy work load. In support of this appeal, the appellant's manager confirms that the appellant was preoccupied with his mother's health, and has had a heavy workload. He states that Mr. Chickkala is a strong candidate for the position and should be allowed to take the examination.

N.J.A.C. 4A:4-2.1(e) provides, in pertinent part, that applications for open competitive and promotional examinations should be filed no later than the announced filing date for filing applications.

CONCLUSION

The appellant was not admitted to the subject examination since he did not file an application by the closing date. He could have completed the on-line application at any time during those three weeks, night or day, and did not have to be at work to do so. There were no reported problems with the online filing process. Additionally, the announcement was posted on the Commission's website, and was posted at the appellant's job location in a glass enclosed case on the first floor of his building near the lunch room. Also, the Department of Human Services notified him of his eligibility in an initial email dated April 29, 2016, and a follow-up email on May 18, 2016 reminded candidates that applications were due by May 23, 2016. Accordingly, there is no basis to accept the appellant's application after the closing date.

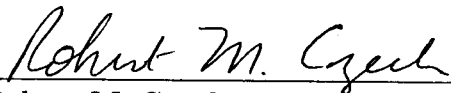
A thorough review of all material presented indicates that appellant did not meet the announced requirements for eligibility by the examination closing date. Thus, appellant has failed to support his burden of proof in this matter.

ORDER

Therefore, it is ordered that this request be denied.

This is the final administrative determination in this matter. Any further review should be pursued in a judicial forum.

DECISION RENDERED BY THE
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION ON
THE 7th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2016



Robert M. Czech
Chairperson
Civil Service Commission

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