



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY
Acting Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

MEGHAN DAVEY
Director

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
AND HEALTH SERVICES

J.H.,

PETITIONER,

v.

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

AND HEALTH SERVICES &

OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF

SOCIAL SERVICES,

RESPONDENTS.

Vertical line of dots separating petitioner and respondents

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

FINAL AGENCY DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HMA 06297-16

As Director of the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, I have reviewed the record in this matter, consisting of the case file, the documents in evidence and the Initial Decision. Neither Party filed Exceptions.1 Procedurally, the time period for the Agency Head to file a Final Agency Decision

1 On November 28, 2016, this office received Petitioner's letter taking exception with the Initial Decision. The substance of the letter, however, does not take exception with ALJ Schuster's findings but rather with his conduct during an off the record discussion, addressed in Petitioner's October 19, 2016 letter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). Parties are permitted to file exceptions within 13 days of the Initial Decision. The Initial Decision was issued on September 30, 2016. Petitioner's letter of November 28, 2016 came 60 days after the Initial Decision and 41 days after it filed a complaint with the OAL.

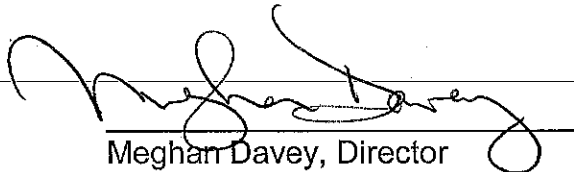
The only issue presented here is whether Petitioner provided the necessary verification for an eligibility determination to be made. On February 22, 2015, Petitioner, through her representative, applied for Medicaid benefits with the Ocean County Board of Social Services (OCBSS). That same day, OCBSS provided a letter to the Petitioner requesting verification and documentation necessary to determine eligibility. On February 26, 2016, March 7, 2016 and March 21, 2016, OCBSS reissued the notice finally requiring all information by April 4, 2016. Thereafter, on April 13, 2016, OCBSS denied Petitioner's Medicaid application. The credible evidence in the record demonstrates that Petitioner failed to provide the needed information prior to the April 13, 2016 denial of benefits. Without this information, OCBSS was unable to complete its eligibility determination and the denial was appropriate.

Based on my review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's findings and hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision.

THEREFORE, it is on this 23rd day of NOVEMBER 2016

ORDERED:

That the Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED.



Meghan Davey, Director
Division of Medical Assistance
and Health Services