



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
P.O. Box 716
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Chris Christie
Governor

Kim Guadagno
Lt. Governor

Elizabeth Connolly
Acting Commissioner

Natasha Johnson
Director
Tel. (609) 588-2400

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 5058-15 D.R.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C314197 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of his application for Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a Food Stamp Program, benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner benefits based upon a failure to provide the Agency with required documentation. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On May 15, 2015, the Honorable Richard McGill, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing and took testimony. No documents were admitted into evidence. On May 19, 2015, the ALJ issued his Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination.

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 I concur with the ALJ's decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this matter. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.19 and N.J.A.C. 10:87-5.9.

By way of comment, the transmittal in this matter also indicates that Petitioner appeals a denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The ALJ did not address this issue. However, I note that a threshold eligibility requirement for EA benefits is that the applicant for such benefits must be a WFNJ or Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") benefits recipient. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a). As I find that Petitioner was properly denied WFNJ/TANF eligibility in this matter, Petitioner is also ineligible to receive EA benefits at this time.

Petitioner is without prejudice to reapply for WFNJ/TANF, SNAP and EA benefits subject to applicable eligibility criteria.

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

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA
MAY 29 2015

Natasha Johnson
Director