



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
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Chris Christie
Governor

Kim Guadagno
Lt. Governor

Elizabeth Connolly
Acting Commissioner

Natasha Johnson
Director

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 3422-15 T.G.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C041604 (SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's reduction of the household's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a the Food Stamp Program, allotment because Petitioner's daughter is a full-time college student. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On March 31, 2015, the Honorable Laura Sanders, Acting Director and Chief Administrative Law Judge ("CALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, admitted documents, and issued an Initial Decision which reversed the Agency determination.

No exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the record in this matter and the CALJ's Initial Decision, and having made an independent evaluation of the record, I ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in the Initial Decision and REVERSE the Agency determination.

Petitioner's adult daughter with verified functional needs is enrolled in a county college pursuant to a state-subsidized Individualized Plan for Employment created by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Initial Decision at 2; Exhibit P-1. I agree with the CALJ that Petitioner's daughter is an eligible member of the SNAP household pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:87-3.14(d)(7)(ii) because she meets criteria set forth in N.J.A.C. 10:87-10.2(b)(3). Initial Decision at 3-4.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is ADOPTED and the Agency determination is REVERSED.

APR - 8 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director