



State of New Jersey

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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 02171-18 P.B.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C357305007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's SNAP benefits contending that her countable household income exceeded the maximum permissible level for receipt of benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On March 6, 2018, the Honorable Andrew M. Baron, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents into evidence.

On March 27, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The record reflects that in November 2017, Petitioner received a lump sum temporary disability payment in the amount of \$3,202, and that she receives \$598 per month in child support, totaling \$3,800. See Initial Decision at 2-3; see also Exhibits R-3, R-5. Here, the maximum allowable monthly gross income level to receive benefits for Petitioner's household of three is \$3,149. See Initial Decision at 2; see also N.J.A.C. 10:87-6.16 and DFDI 17-09-02 at 13. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ found that the Agency had properly terminated Petitioner's SNAP benefits because Petitioner's household income exceeded the gross income level allowable, and therefore, Petitioner was not eligible for SNAP benefits. See Initial Decision at 3. Based on an independent review of the record, I agree with the conclusion of the ALJ.

No Exceptions to this Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the DFD, 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 Initial Decision in this matter.

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

Officially approved final version.

APR 03 2018

Natasha Johnson
Director

