



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716

CAROLE JOHNSON
Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

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

AMENDED DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HPW 09008-18 T.J.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C292072004 (CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

A Final Decision in this case was previously issued on October 3, 2018. Due to an administrative error, the wrong decision text was sent out under this docket number, and the text and decision therein are not applicable to the issues presented in this case. This Amended Decision is issued to correct that administrative error. Petitioner, and the Agency, should disregard the previously issued Final Decision.

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits contending that he failed to comply with the mandatory WFNJ 28-day work activity. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On August 9, 2018, the Honorable Susan L. Olgiati, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On August 30, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that on May 3, 2018, Petitioner applied for WFNJ/GA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-6. On that same date, Petitioner was advised that in order to receive WFNJ/GA benefits, he was required to complete a minimum of 28 days in an employment-related activity. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-3, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.2(f)(8), -2.2(a)(2). On May 30, 2018, the Agency notified Petitioner again that he must comply with the 28-day work activity requirement. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-2. On June 4, 2018, the Agency denied Petitioner's application for WFNJ/GA benefits due to his failure to comply with the 28-day work activity requirement. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1. The ALJ found that Petitioner neither engaged in, nor completed, the 28-day work requirement protocol, and that he did not provide any good cause reason for his failure to do so. See Initial Decision at 4-5; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-4.11. Accordingly, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's denial of WFNJ/GA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 5; see also Exhibit R-1, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.2(f)(8), -2.2(a)(2). I agree.

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 ALJ's Initial Decision, and following an independent review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's final conclusion in this matter and hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law.

By way of comment, Petitioner is without prejudice to reapply for WFNJ/GA benefits, provided he continues to need said benefits and is otherwise eligible for same, in accordance with WFNJ regulatory authority.



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

OCT 15 2010

Officially approved final version.

Natasha Johnson
Director

