



*State of New Jersey*

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
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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

FINAL DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HPW 07222-18 S.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C173057020 (UNION COUNTY DIVISION OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/ Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits contending that she had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On May 21, 2018, the Honorable Evelyn J. Marose, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

Also on May 21, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination to deny Petitioner EA benefits. Here, Petitioner, a Supplemental Security Income benefits recipient, applied for EA benefits and was denied by the Agency, as she had previously received 40 months of EA benefits, thereby exhausting the 12-month lifetime limit for said benefits, plus all available extensions. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibits R-1, R-2. The ALJ found that the Agency's decision was proper, and that Petitioner did not qualify for any further EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2-3; see also Exhibits R-1, R-2, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a), (b), (c). I agree.

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 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, the Agency shall refer Petitioner to any and all agencies and organizations that may be able to assist with her current needs, including Social Services for the Homeless.

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

Officially approved final version.

**MAY 30 2018**

Natasha Johnson  
Director

