



State of New Jersey

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY
Acting Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

NATASHA JOHNSON
Director
Tel: (609) 588-2000

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 17021-17 S.W.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C223603009 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") and Emergency Assistance ("EA"), benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits because she was no longer financially eligible for said benefits, and terminated her EA benefits because she is not a WFNJ or Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") benefits recipient. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 18, 2017, the Honorable Susana E. Guerrero, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On December 20, 2017, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that Petitioner started receiving Unemployment Insurance Benefits ("UIB") in August 2017. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1. As a result, the Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") benefits because she was no longer financially eligible to receive said benefits, and terminated Petitioner's EA benefits effective November 11, 2017, because she was no longer a WFNJ or SSI benefits recipient. See Initial Decision at 2-3; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1-4. Petitioner does not dispute that she receives UIB, and that she is therefore ineligible for WFNJ/TANF benefits, conceding that she does not need cash assistance, and is only seeking assistance with housing costs. See Initial Decision at 2. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ found that Petitioner conceded that she is ineligible for WFNJ/TANF benefits, and as such, affirmed the Agency's termination of Petitioner's EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1-4, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a) (stating that only WFNJ benefits recipients and SSI benefits recipients are eligible for EA benefits). 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, 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 in this matter is hereby ADOPTED and the Agency's determination is AFFIRMED.

Officially approved final version.

JAN 30 2018

Natasha Johnson

Director

