



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

CAROLE JOHNSON
Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

PO BOX 716
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 05846-19 A.W.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C427135016 (PASSAIC COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/TANF benefits, contending that she is over the initial income eligibility limit for said benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. A hearing was initially scheduled for May 23, 2019, but was adjourned. On June 17, 2019, the Honorable Julio C. Morejon, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On July 3, 2019, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the ALJ found, and the record substantiates, that Petitioner receives \$968 per month in earned income for purposes of determining initial WFNJ/TANF benefits eligibility. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibits R1-3, R1-4, R1-5, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.9(b), -3.19. Based on Petitioner's total monthly household income of \$968, which exceeds the initial financial eligibility limit of \$700 for an assistance unit of three, such as Petitioner's, the ALJ found that she is ineligible for WFNJ/TANF benefits. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibits R1-6, R1-7, R1-8, R1-9, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.1(a), (b), -3.2(a), -3.3(a), and Division of Family Development ("DFD") Informational Transmittal No. 19-12. Therefore, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's denial of WFNJ/TANF benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also Exhibit R1-8. 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.

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



Officially approved final version.

AUG - 1 2019

Natasha Johnson

Director

