



*State of New Jersey*

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*Governor*

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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 01850-19 C.O.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C286724007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

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 Petitioner's income exceeds the maximum allowable income level for WFNJ/GA benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On March 5, 2019, the Honorable Evelyn J. Marose, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. Also on March 5, 2019, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have reviewed the ALJ's Initial Decision and the record, and I hereby ADOPT the ALJ's Initial Decision, and AFFIRM the Agency's determination.

Financial eligibility for WFNJ benefits is determined based upon the assistance unit's countable income, both earned and unearned, as well as countable resources. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.1(a). If a WFNJ/GA assistance unit has income that is equal to or less than the maximum allowable income level, then financial eligibility exists. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.1(b). The maximum allowable income level for an employable WFNJ/GA assistance unit that consists of one individual is \$210 per month. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.5(a).

Here, the record reflects that Petitioner receives Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance benefits in excess of \$1,000 per month. See Initial Decision at 2. As a result, Petitioner's income was over the maximum allowable income level for WFNJ/GA benefits, and as such, the Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit P-1, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(4), -3.1(a), (b), -3.5(a), -3.9. Further, the ALJ noted for Petitioner's benefit that, because Petitioner is neither a WFNJ cash benefits recipient, nor a Supplemental Security Income benefits recipient, she is ineligible for EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a). Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's denial of WFNJ/GA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit P-1, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.1 (a), (b). I agree.

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



Officially approved final version.

APR - 1 2019

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Natasha Johnson

Director

