



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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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 07512-19 K.T.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C130204001 (ATLANTIC CO. DEPT OF FAM. & COM. DEV)

Petitioner challenges the Respondent Agency's calculation, resulting in a reduction of her Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits amount. Petitioner's SNAP benefit amount was reduced as a result of increased household income. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On June 21, 2019, the Honorable Kathleen M. Calemme, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents into evidence.

On July 1, 2019, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's calculation of Petitioner's SNAP benefits. Here, the record reflects that on March 3, 2019, Petitioner, a SNAP benefits recipient, began receiving Unemployment Insurance Benefits ("UIB"), which caused her household income to increase. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1, 2, 15-18, and N.J.A.C. 10:87-5.5(a) (2). Thereafter, as a result of that increased income, Petitioner's monthly SNAP benefits were reduced to \$15, effective June 1, 2019. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1, 4. The ALJ found that Petitioner's increased household income, comprised of her monthly Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") benefits and UIB benefits, was used to calculate her monthly SNAP benefit amount, effective June 1, 2019. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1, 2, 4, and N.J.A.C. 10:87-5.3, -6.16. Based on the record presented, the ALJ affirmed the Agency's calculation of Petitioner's monthly income, and concluded that the resultant reduction of Petitioner's SNAP benefit amount was therefore correct. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-1, and N.J.A.C. 10:87-6.16. 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 hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is hereby ADOPTED and the Agency determination is AFFIRMED.



Officially approved final version.

JUL 11 2018

Natasha Johnson

Director

