



*State of New Jersey*

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
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CAROLE JOHNSON  
*Commissioner*

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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

NATASHA JOHNSON  
*Assistant Commissioner*

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 13747-19 M.B.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C086859018 (SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner's application for SNAP benefits as it contended that Petitioner's household gross monthly income exceeds the maximum permissible level for receipt of said benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On October 22, 2019, the Honorable Sarah G. Crowley, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents into evidence.

On November 4, 2019, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that Petitioner's SNAP household is comprised of Petitioner, her spouse, and one child. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 37. Petitioner's gross monthly earned income is \$3,834 (\$1,769.23 x 2.167). See Exhibits R-1 at 37, 38-39; and N.J.A.C. 10:87-5.2, -5.4 and -9.1. The maximum allowable monthly gross income level to receive SNAP benefits for a household of three is \$3,204. See Initial Decision at 2; see also N.J.A.C. 10:87-6.16, and Division of Family Development Instruction ("DFDI") 18-09-01 at 13. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ affirmed the Agency's decision to deny Petitioner SNAP benefits, concluding that Petitioner's monthly household gross income exceeded the maximum level allowable for receipt of SNAP benefits. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-1 at 3-6, and N.J.A.C. 10:87-6.16(d)(2). Based on an independent review of the record, I agree with the conclusion of the ALJ.

No Exceptions to this 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 decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

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



Officially approved final version.

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Natasha Johnson  
Assistant Commissioner

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