



## State of New Jersey

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*Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
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SARAH ADELMAN  
*Commissioner*

TAHESHA L. WAY  
*Lt. Governor*

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 17799-24 K.C.

AGENCY DKT. NO. **S653058012 (MIDDLESEX COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)**

Petitioner appeals from 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, contending that his monthly earned income exceeded the allowable eligibility benefit level for receipt of such benefits, and terminated Petitioner's EA benefits because he is no longer a WFNJ benefits recipient, nor is he a Supplemental Security Income ("SSI"), benefits recipient. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On January 31, 2025, the Honorable Judith Lieberman, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On February 18, 2025, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determinations.

Here, based on the testimonial and documentary evidence presented, the ALJ found that Petitioner's monthly employment income exceeded the maximum benefit payment level allowed for WFNJ/TANF eligibility. See Initial Decision 2-4; see also Exhibits R-1 through R-5, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.3(b), -3.8. The ALJ also found that Petitioner had failed to report his new employment income within the required 10 days, and as such, he was not entitled to any applicable income disregards. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also Exhibits R-1, R-3, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.8(b)(1). Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's termination of Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.1(c). I agree. Consequently, because Petitioner was no longer a WFNJ benefits recipient, nor an SSI benefits recipient, the ALJ found that Petitioner was ineligible for EA benefits, and accordingly, concluded that the Agency's termination of Petitioner's EA benefits was also proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 4; see also Exhibit EA-R-7, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a). I also agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As Assistant Commissioner, 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 determination is AFFIRMED.



Officially approved final version. April 03, 2025

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Natasha Johnson  
Assistant Commissioner

