



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

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 **05822-25 S.A.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C108570003 (BURLINGTON COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of his application for Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner's application for SNAP benefits, contending that Petitioner had failed to provide information and documentation necessary to determine eligibility. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for a hearing. On June 2, 2025, the Honorable Michael R. Stanzione, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents. On June 13, 2025, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

Here, the record reveals that Petitioner completed an application for SNAP benefits on October 15, 2024. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-A. Petitioner received expedited SNAP benefits of \$482 on October 21, 2024. Ibid. On October 20, 2024, the Agency requested further information and documentation, specifically paystubs for the past thirty days to establish Petitioner's gross monthly income. Ibid. Having received no response, on February 11, 2025, the Agency sent a Request for Contact notification requesting that paystubs for the past thirty days be submitted on or before February 25, 2025. Ibid. Petitioner submitted two paystubs to the Agency on February 19, 2025. Ibid. On February 28, 2025, the Agency denied Petitioner's SNAP benefits application, effective November 1, 2024, due to his failure to provide the requested thirty days of paystubs, as Petitioner was paid weekly and he submitted only two of the requested four paystubs. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-A.

In order to determine eligibility for SNAP benefits, mandatory verification of certain information is required, such as household income, both earned and unearned income. See N.J.A.C. 10:87-2.14, -2.19, -2.20. Without said verification of required information, SNAP eligibility cannot be determined or granted. Ibid. Following presentation of testimonial and documentary evidence in this case, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner had not provided the requested information required to be verified to determine eligibility, and as such, the Agency's denial of SNAP benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:87-2.14, -2.19, -2.20. I 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.

By way of comment, Petitioner subsequently reapplied for SNAP benefits on March 4, 2025, and his case is currently active.



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

Officially approved final version. July 08, 2025

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

