



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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SARAH ADELMAN
Commissioner

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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 **09694-25 T.G.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **S467652001 (ATLANTIC CO. DEPT OF FAM. & COM. DEV)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner's application for SNAP benefits for failure to provide information necessary to determine eligibility. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for a hearing. On July 25, 2025, the Honorable Carl V. Buck III, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. The record was then held open to allow for the submission of additional documentation and closed on August 13, 2025. On September 3, 2025, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

Here, the record reveals that Petitioner applied for SNAP benefits on February 4, 2025, indicating that he was homeless and had no source of earned income. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 12. On February 10, 2025, the Agency requested that Petitioner provide proof of homelessness via Volunteers of America, which was thereafter provided. See Initial Decision at 2. On March 6, 2025, the Agency sent Petitioner a Denial Notice stating that his application was denied due to him not having provided all of the information necessary to process his application. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 2. Thereafter, on March 13, 2025, the Agency sent Petitioner a request for paystubs or letters of separation from four different employers. See Initial Decision at 2. At the time of the hearing, Petitioner testified that he never received any correspondence from the Agency, that all of his records are in storage, and that he relocated to Camden County as of March 2025. See Initial Decision at 3. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ found that the Petitioner failed to provide the Agency with the required documentation necessary to determine Petitioner's eligibility for SNAP benefits, and accordingly, concluded that the Agency's denial of Petitioner's application for said benefits was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 3-5; see also N.J.A.C. 10:87-2.14, -2.19, -2.20, -2.22. 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 is without prejudice to reapply for SNAP benefits, if he has not already done so, in his current county of residence, but is advised that he must provide all documentation necessary to determine eligibility. Petitioner is advised to communicate directly with the Agency in which he currently resides with regards to the application and any required documentation.

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



Officially approved final version.

September 19, 2025

Natasha Johnson

Assistant Commissioner

