



State of New Jersey

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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 **05660-25 D.B.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C161287020 (UNION COUNTY DIVISION OF SOC. SVCS.)**

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's termination of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits, contending that she had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On March 20, 2026, the Honorable Joann Lasala Candido, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents, and the record was closed on that date. On March 20, 2026, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's determination.

This office has been advised that the Agency is rescinding its position regarding the denial of EA benefits to Petitioner. Therefore, as Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I hereby ORDER and DIRECT the Agency to provide Petitioner with the appropriate two months of retroactive EA benefits for January, 2025, and February, 2025. Further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and therefore, DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

Accordingly, Petitioner's appeal now being deemed moot, the matter is hereby DISMISSED.

Officially approved final version. April 22, 2026

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

