



# State of New Jersey

MIKIE SHERRILL  
*Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
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STEPHEN CHA, MD, MHSR  
*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 **21457-25 T.H.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **S640508012 (MIDDLESEX COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits, contending that Petitioner failed to provide mandatory documentation necessary to receive said benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for a hearing. On February 20, 2026, the Honorable Jeffrey N. Rabin, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents into evidence. On March 3, 2026, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

Here, the record reveals that the Agency sent Petitioner a Request for Contact on August 21, 2025, informing him that he needed to provide the Agency with mandatory forms, specifically his Individual Responsibility Plan ("IRP"), and that a failure to sign and return such forms would result in the termination of his WFNJ/GA benefits. See Exhibit R-1. Petitioner failed to respond to the Agency, and on November 21, 2025, the Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits. See Exhibit R-1.

In order to determine eligibility for WFNJ benefits, mandatory verification of certain information is required. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2. Eligibility for WFNJ/GA benefits requires the applicant to provide all necessary documentation. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5) (stating that "As a condition of eligibility for WFNJ benefits, the applicant shall, subject to good cause exceptions, be required to provide all necessary documentation."). Based on the credible testimony and documentary evidence provided, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner had not provided all information required to receive WFNJ/GA benefits, and as such, the Agency's termination of WFNJ/GA benefits, effective November 1, 2025, was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 2, 5; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(c), -4.1(f). 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 WFNJ/GA benefits, if he has not already done so, but is reminded that he must provide all information and documentation requested in order to determine eligibility.

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



Officially approved final version. April 16, 2026

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Natasha Johnson  
Assistant Commissioner

