



State of New Jersey

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY
Acting Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

NATASHA JOHNSON
Director
Tel: (609) 588-2000

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 7410-17 V.B.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C085389003 (BURLINGTON COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner 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 May 31, 2017, the Honorable Dean J. Buono, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On May 31, 2017, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have reviewed the ALJ's Initial Decision and the record, and I hereby MODIFY the ALJ's Initial Decision, and AFFIRM the Agency's determination.

Here, the record substantiates that Petitioner has received at least 24 months of EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2, 3; see also Exhibit R-1 at 16-21. Therefore, I find that Petitioner has exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions, and that there is no regulatory authority by which the Agency may grant Petitioner additional EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a), (b), (d). On that basis, I find that the Agency's denial of EA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Exhibit R-1 at 9-13. The Initial Decision is modified to reflect this finding.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is hereby MODIFIED, and the Agency's determination is AFFIRMED.

JUN 07 2017

Officially approved final version.

Natasha Johnson
Director

