

**BEFORE THE ALASKA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS ON REFERRAL
BY THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH**

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
K. T.	)	OAH No. 24-0108-SNA
_____	)	

DECISION

I. Introduction

K. T. submitted an application for SNAP benefits to the Division of Public Assistance (“the Division”) in which she disclosed gross monthly income exceeding the limit set by program regulations. Because the Division correctly determined Ms. T.’s gross monthly income, and applied the correct income limit for her household, the Division’s decision to deny her application is AFFIRMED.

II. Facts

Ms. T. submitted an application for SNAP benefits for her one-person household on January 4, 2024.¹ In her application, she stated that she received gross income from her job of \$1,200 every two weeks.² This amounts to a gross monthly income of \$2,580 per month, when the biweekly amount is adjusted, by regulation, to account for a 30-day month. The gross income limit for a one-person household is \$1,973.³ The Division notified Ms. T. on February 1, 2024 that her application was denied because her monthly gross income exceeded the SNAP gross income limit for her household size.⁴ In response, Ms. T. submitted a fair hearing request wherein she explained that most of her income is spent on rent, utilities and car expenses, and that she lacks money for food.⁵

During her hearing Ms. T. testified that she receives \$621 per week in gross pay, which is slightly higher than the \$1,200 gross biweekly income she reported on her application, but that her bi-weekly take home pay is always less than \$1,000, which barely pays her rent, utilities, and car expenses.

III. Discussion

To receive SNAP benefits, a household’s income may not exceed a specified gross income limit.⁶ The federal government sets the gross income limit every October based on

¹ Exhibits 2 - 2.11.
² Exhibit 2.3.
³ Exhibit 6.
⁴ Exhibit 3.
⁵ Exhibit 4.
⁶ 7 C.F.R. § 273.9(a)(1); Ex. 6.

federal poverty guidelines.⁷ For Alaska, the limit is 130 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for Alaska.⁸ The gross income limit for a one-person household in Alaska, as set in October 2023 for the period through September 30, 2024, is \$1,973 per month.⁹

Here, Ms. T. testified that her current gross weekly pay is \$621. For purposes of determining SNAP eligibility this translates into a gross monthly income of \$2,670.¹⁰ Since this exceeds the gross income limit set by the program's regulations, the Division does not have the discretion to award any SNAP benefits to Ms. T. regardless of how great her living expenses might be.

IV. Conclusion

Because Ms. T.'s gross income exceeds the current limit for SNAP eligibility, there was no means by which the Division could approve her for benefits. Accordingly, the Division's decision to deny her application is AFFIRMED.

DATED: March 27, 2024.

Signed

Max Garner
Administrative Law Judge

⁷ 7 C.F.R. § 273.9(a)(3).

⁸ 7 C.F.R. § 273.9(a)(1)(i)(ii).

⁹ Exhibit 6

¹⁰ 7 C.F.R. § 273.10(c)(2) (providing that weekly gross income will be multiplied by 4.3 to determine monthly gross income).

Adoption

The undersigned, by delegation from the Commissioner of Health, adopts this Decision, under the authority of AS 44.64.060(e)(1), as the final administrative determination in this matter.

Judicial review of this decision may be obtained by filing an appeal in the Alaska Superior Court in accordance with Alaska R. App. P. 602(a)(2) within 30 days after the date of this decision.

DATED this 9th day of April, 2024.

By: Signed
Name: Max Garner
Title: Administrative Law Judge

[This document has been modified to conform to the technical standards for publication. Names may have been changed to protect privacy.]