



income limit to qualify for benefits at the time of Petitioner's application was \$1,255.<sup>1</sup> See Medicaid Communication No. 24-02.

The Initial Decision found that Essex County failed to present any testimony or evidence regarding when the renewal packet was sent to Petitioner. ID at 3. Based on this information, the Initial Decision determined that the October 7, 2024, termination of Petitioner's Medicaid application should be reversed. Ibid. However, the Initial Decision affirmed the February [10], 2025 denial of Petitioner's Medicaid application because Petitioner's income exceeded the income limit for the Aged, Blind and Disabled program.<sup>2</sup> ID at 6. Here, Essex County determined that Petitioner was ineligible for Medicaid benefits because his monthly income exceeded the standard pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:72-4.1. R-4. According to Essex County, Petitioner's income was \$1,390.11, which includes social security payments of \$1,131.60 and \$278.51 from Petitioner's annuity plan. R-6. The total combined income reported of \$1,390.11 minus the \$20 allowable disregard exceeds the maximum allowable income standard. Ibid.

As to the first issue, the county board of social services must annually redetermine eligibility. N.J.A.C. 10:72-2.5(a) provides:

(2) For an aged, blind, or disabled individual, including a disabled child, eligibility must be redetermined no later than 12 months following the month of initial eligibility or the last redetermination using Form PA-1G-NJR2 (Redetermination Form). The CBOSS may require that the form be completed during a face-to-face interview. However, at the option of the CBOSS, and with the approval of the beneficiary, the face-to-face interview may be eliminated. Form PA-1G-NJR2 (Redetermination Form) may be mailed to and completed by the beneficiary and mailed to the CBOSS.

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<sup>1</sup> Both Essex County and the Initial Decision inadvertently reference the 2025 income standard. According to the evidence provided, Petitioner filed his Medicaid application on November 13, 2024. R-4. As such, the income standard for 2024 should have been applied.

<sup>2</sup> The Initial Decision inadvertently notes February 2, 2025, as the date of the denial letter sent to Petitioner. ID at 6. The actual date is February 10, 2025. R-4.

In this case, Petitioner alleges that he never received the renewal application. R-20. The Initial Decision agrees with Petitioner's assertion and concludes that Essex County's October 7, 2024, termination of Petitioner's Medicaid application should be reversed. ID at 6. More specifically, the Initial Decision finds that Essex County failed to provide "any proof regarding the date the renewal packet was mailed or address the renewal packet was sent to." ID at 3.

The second issue is whether Petitioner's income was over the limit to qualify for Medicaid benefits. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:71-5.1(b), "[a]ll income, whether in cash or in-kind, shall be considered in the determination of eligibility, unless such income is specifically exempt under the provisions of N.J.A.C. 10:71-5.3." Here, Petitioner's total monthly income was \$1,390.11, which includes social security payments of \$1,131.60 and \$278.51 from Petitioner's annuity plan minus the \$20 allowable disregard amount. R-6. The income limit for 2024 is \$1,255. See Med Com 24-02. Using the 2024 limit, Petitioner's income exceeds the income limit by \$135.11.<sup>3</sup> In addition, Petitioner has failed to show that the yearly annuity payments made each July qualify as excludable income, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:71- 5.3. Hence, Essex County appropriately denied Petitioner's application for being over the standard income limit. R-4.

Thus, based upon my review of the record, and for the reasons set forth herein, I agree with the findings of the ALJ and hereby ADOPT the ALJ's recommended decision, as set forth above.

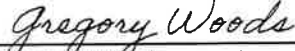
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<sup>3</sup> The Initial Decision inadvertently notes Petitioner's income exceeds the limit by \$85.11. This calculation is based on the utilizing the income limit of \$1,305 for 2025 rather than the income limit of \$1,255 for 2024.

THEREFORE, it is on this 12th day of August 2025,

ORDERED:

That the Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED as set forth above.

  
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Gregory Woods, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Medical Assistance  
and Health Services