



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES
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Governor

JENNIFER VELEZ
Commissioner

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VALERIE HARR
Director

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 12-09

DATE: April 17, 2012

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors
Statewide Eligibility Agencies
Institutional Services Section (ISS) Area Supervisors

SUBJECT: Veterans' Administration Payments

The purpose of this communication is to advise eligibility agencies that applicants for any of the medical assistance programs who are currently receiving income through the Veterans' Administration (VA) must provide detailed verification of such income. Due to recent clarifications of the VA methods of determining varying VA benefit categories, it is necessary to obtain an in depth **VA Award Letter** detailing the benefit(s) the applicant is eligible to receive and specifically indicating the dollar amount of the portion of each benefit that is classified for categories such as but not limited to "Aid and Attendance", "Improved Pension", "Widow Pension", "Dependent Pension", "Housebound Care" or "Educational" benefits. VA Award Letters just listing the total VA benefit amount will require the detailed benefit breakdowns in order for eligibility to be correctly determined for these applicants.

This detail in benefit is crucial for determining "countable income", "excluded income" or "specific disregards" for income when calculating program eligibility. This also impacts the post-eligibility treatment of income determinations.

For information regarding Veteran's Administration Payments and Benefits please contact the New Jersey Regional Office of the Veteran's Administration at 1-800-827-1000.

If you have any questions regarding this Medicaid Communication, please refer them to the Division's Office of Eligibility Policy field service staff for your agency at 609-588-2556.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Valerie Harr".

Valerie Harr
Director

VH:S

- c: Jennifer Velez, Commissioner
Department of Human Services
- Lynn Kovich, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Dawn Apgar, Deputy Commissioner
Division of Developmental Disabilities
- Jeanette Page-Hawkins, Director
Division of Family Development
- Joseph Amoroso, Director
Division of Disability Services
- Raquel Jeffers, Deputy Director
Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Allison Blake, Commissioner
Department of Children and Families
- Mary E. O'Dowd, Commissioner
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Department of Health and Senior Services