



State of New Jersey

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

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
QUAKERBRIDGE PLAZA—BUILDING 5 & 7 & 12
QUAKERBRIDGE ROAD
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08619

ADDRESS REPLY TO:
CN-712
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO: 89-9 DATE: March 3, 1989

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors

SUBJECT: Increased Income Eligibility Standards; New Jersey Care...Special Medicaid Programs

This communication serves to confirm information that was conveyed to your agency via telephone on February 24, 1989.

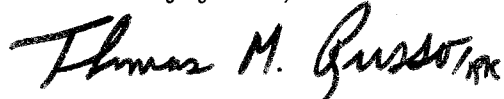
Regulations governing New Jersey Care...Special Medicaid Programs (N.J.A.C. 10:71-4.1(a)), provide that the income eligibility standards which are based on the federal poverty guidelines are to be effective the first month beginning 30 days after the publication of the guidelines in the Federal Register. The federal poverty guidelines for 1989 were published February 16, 1989.

As a result of the delay between the January 1 cost-of-living increase in Social Security benefits and the scheduled increase in the New Jersey Care income standards, a considerable number of recipients have been terminated. As reported by your agencies, many of these recipients have immediate or ongoing medical needs. This temporary period of ineligibility obviously affects an individual's ability to access necessary medical treatment.

In order to minimize this disruption in eligibility for Medicaid, the Division is waiving the regulations which would delay the implementation of the new income standards until April 1989. Therefore, the new standards (attached) are effective for the month of February and for future months. County welfare agencies shall review New Jersey Care case closings and denials occurring since the time of the Social Security benefit increase to ascertain if current eligibility exists. Any case determined eligible based on the new income eligibility standards shall be accreted to the eligibility file with an effective date of February 1, 1989. So long as the most recent Medicaid application is current, no new application need be taken.

Questions may be referred to the field service staff assigned to your county.

Sincerely yours,

Handwritten signature of Thomas M. Russo in cursive script, with the initials 'TRK' at the end.

Thomas M. Russo, Director
Division of Medical Assistance
and Health Services

TMR:Hd

Attachment

cc: Odella T. Welch
Deputy Commissioner

Marion Reitz, Director
Division of Public Welfare

William Waldman, Director
Division of Youth and Family Services

Attachment to
Medicaid Communication No: 89-9
March 3, 1989

New Jersey Care...Special Medicaid Programs
1989 Income Eligibility Standards - Effective 2/1/89

<u>Unit Size</u>	<u>Monthly Standard</u>
1	\$498
2	668
3	838
4	1,008
5	1,178
6	1,348
7	1,518
8	1,688
each additional	+ 170