



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

PO Box 712

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0712

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

SARAH ADELMAN
Acting Commissioner

JENNIFER LANGER JACOBS
Assistant Commissioner

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 21-06

DATE: November 19, 2021

TO: NJ FamilyCare Eligibility Determining Agencies

SUBJECT: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income – 2021 Adjusted Utility Allowance
N.J.A.C. 10:71-5.7

In determining the amount that may be deducted from the income of an institutionalized Medicaid-eligible individual for the maintenance of a community spouse, consideration is given to the excess shelter expenses of the community spouse. When calculating the amount of the shelter expenses, the standard utility allowance is utilized when the community spouse directly incurs utility charges.

As you are aware, these utility allowances are the same as those applicable in determining eligibility under the authority of the Division of Family Development's (DFD) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). DFD has announced that the standard utility allowance will increase from \$548.00 to **\$583 per month, effective October 1, 2021.**

County Welfare Agencies (CWA) and Institutional Services Section (ISS) offices shall continue to apply these standards in the post-eligibility treatment of income beginning with the month of October 2021 for all new cases and cases subject to redetermination.

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

JLJ:mt

c: Sarah Adelman, Acting Commissioner
Department of Human Services

Elisa Neira, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Human Services

Natasha Johnson, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Family Development

Valerie Mielke, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services

Jonathan Seifried, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Developmental Disabilities

Peri Nearon, Director
Division of Disability Services

Louise Rush, Director
Division of Aging Services

Christine Norbut Beyer, Commissioner
Department of Children and Families

Judith M. Persichilli, RN, BSN, MA, Commissioner
Department of Health

Joshua Lichtblau, Director, Medicaid Fraud Division
Office of the State Comptroller