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,

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
   Kathleen M. Mason, Assistant Commissioner
   Department of Health and Senior Services