



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

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

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

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION 86-2

TO: County Welfare Directors

DATE: March 24, 1986

SUBJECT: Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) Increase for SSI Recipients

Governor Thomas H. Kean signed a law (L.1985 c.286) effective on November 1, 1985, granting a \$10.00 increase in Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) for Medicaid recipients residing in Medicaid approved (Title XIX) facilities. The new Personal Needs Allowance is \$35.00 per month. Most Medicaid eligible recipients have already received this increase, however, those recipients who receive a monthly SSI check from the Social Security Administration had to wait until the federal government approved the New Jersey State Plan.

Federal approval has been received and beginning with the month of April 1986, and every month thereafter, the State will issue a check for \$10.00 for each SSI eligible recipient residing in a Medicaid approved (Title XIX) facility.

Since the checks will be issued each month by utilizing a data base supplied by the Social Security Administration, the payee and the mailing address of the individual checks will be the same as that of the SSI checks mailed from the federal agency.

As the increment is retroactive, a check will be issued for the months of November 1985 through March 1986. This payment will include the amount of \$10.00 for each month in which the individual was eligible retroactive to November 1985, thus, an SSI recipient who is identified in the data base as having been eligible during the entire period from November 1985 through March 1986 will receive a payment of \$50.00.

The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services is distributing a long-term care services bulletin informing all facilities of these procedures. Each facility is also being advised that if a check is received for a deceased recipient or a recipient who is no longer a resident of the facility, it must be returned immediately to:

Division of Public Welfare
Bureau of Business Services
CN-716
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

The facility is also being requested to ensure that each SSI recipient, family member or Representative Payee is made aware of this additional PNA and to distribute the attached announcement to all Medicaid recipients currently residing in the facility.

Any questions regarding this communication should be directed to the field representative at the Division of Public Welfare.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas M. Russo

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

TMR:Kc

cc: Larry J. Lockhart
Deputy Commissioner

Audrey Harris, Director
Division of Public Welfare

Thomas Blatner, Director
DYFS Management Team



State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services

Governor Thomas H. Kean signed a law (L.1985, c.286) November 1985 which increased the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) \$10.00 each month. Most Medicaid patients have already received this increase; however, the SSI client who receives a monthly SSI check had to wait for approval by the federal government.

Beginning April 1986, a separate check for \$10.00 will be issued every month for each SSI eligible resident in a Medicaid approved facility. This \$10.00 will be in addition to the monthly SSI check issued by the Social Security Administration. As this increase was effective November 1985, a separate check will be issued for the months of November 1985 through March 1986. This retroactive payment will include \$10.00 for each month in which the SSI resident was eligible from November 1985. If the SSI resident was eligible and in the facility for the entire period from November 1985 to March 1986, the check will be for \$50.00.

This increase is for the personal needs of the Medicaid patient and is not to be applied against the cost of care.

Any questions about PNA are to be directed to the social worker in the facility.