

to adopt, reject, or modify the Initial Decision within 45 days of receipt. The Initial Decision was received on July 28, 2020.

The matter arises regarding the December 2019 denial of Medicaid benefits for Petitioner and his wife due to excess income. Essex County determined that Petitioner's household received unemployment benefits totaling \$2,794 a month. In 2019, the income limit was \$1,945. See Medicaid Communication No.19-03. As such, benefits were denied.

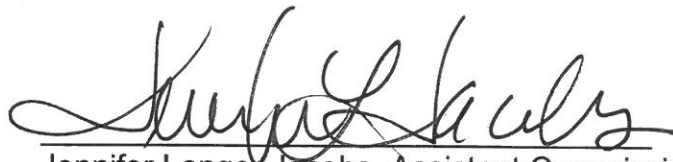
The Initial Decision upheld the denial and found that Petitioner's income exceed the threshold for 2019 and in 2020 when the amount increased to \$1,983. Petitioner stated his unemployment benefits would be ending. Essex County advised him to reapply at that time.

Thus, I hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision and uphold Essex County's denial of Petitioner's application for Medicaid due to excess income. If Petitioner's income changes, he can reapply for benefits.

THEREFORE, it is on this th day of SEPTEMBER 2020,

ORDERED:

That the Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED.



Jennifer Langer Jacobs, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Medical Assistance
and Health Services