

Richfield Township
Resolution No. 21-01

Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the Township Supervisor and Board of Review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under the General Property Tax Act; and

WHEREAS, the Richfield Township Board is required by Section 7u of the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893 (MCL 211.7u), to adopt guidelines for poverty exemptions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, pursuant to MCL 211.7u, that Richfield Township, Genesee County, adopts the following guidelines for the Township Supervisor and Board of Review to implement.

The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year.

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a homestead the property for which an exemption is requested. A property is defined by a parcel number on the assessment and or tax roll for the Township and is recorded with a "principal residence exemption", which includes qualified agricultural property.
- 2) As the property owner of record, file a claim with the Board of Review or Township Supervisor, accompanied by a copy of their federal and state income tax returns for the current year or in the immediately preceding year. All other persons residing in the homestead must provide a copy of their federal and state income tax returns, if filed, or they may file a Michigan Department of Treasury Affidavit (Form 4988) that they were not required to file a federal or state income tax return in the current year or in the immediately preceding year.
- 3) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.
- 4) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested if requested.
- 5) Meet the federal poverty income guidelines plus 20% as defined and determined annually by the US Department of Health and Services.

PA 390 of 1994 requires the Township print the **Federal Poverty Income Standards**. The following are the Poverty guidelines as of 12-31-20 for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2021 assessments.

Size of Family Unit	Poverty Guidelines	Plus 20% 1.2
1	\$12,760	\$15,312
2	\$17,240	\$20,618
3	\$21,330	\$25,596
4	\$25,750	\$30,900
5	\$30,170	\$36,204
6	\$34,590	\$41,508
7	\$39,010	\$46,812
8	\$43,430	\$52,116
For each additional person, add	\$4,480	\$5,376

6) Complete the application for an exemption in its entirety and file said application prior to the last day of the Board of Review.

7) Appear in person at the Board of Review and sign the application in the presence of the Board of Review members after an oath is administered unless infirmity or disability does not allow. In such cases, applicants may send a representative in their absence as pre-arranged.

8) Meet additional eligibility requirements as determined and approved by the Township Board, including:

- Understanding that the Board of Review will consider all assets owned by petitioner in its deliberations as to whether relief should be granted.
- Own total household assets (excluding the real estate value of the homestead and vehicle(s) as outlined separately herein) of less than \$25,000.
- Own no more than one vehicle for each working adult whose income contributes to the financial revenue as listed in accordance with item 2) above.
- Own no rental properties and a second home or vacation home or property.
- Own no other additional assets in excess of \$25,000 in total. Additional assets to include but not be limited to, recreational vehicles such as campers, motor homes, boats or ATV vehicles, and other personal property of value.
- Shall not have any stocks and or bank accounts exceeding \$5,000 in value.
- Shall not have received money from the sale of any stocks and bonds, or received gifts, loans, lump-sum inheritances, one-time insurance payments, tax refunds exceeding \$2,500 in value.
- In addition to the federal poverty income guidelines as mentioned in item 5) above, a hardship situation does not exist when all non-refundable property taxes do not exceed 5% of the household/owners adjusted income.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the Richfield Township Board of Review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the Board of Review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these reasons are communicated in writing to the claimant.

Adopted: January 11th 2021

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0

Joseph M. Madore, Supervisor

Teri Webber, Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
 ss:)
COUNTY OF GENESEE)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of Richfield Township, Genesee County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Township Board of said township at the regular meeting of said board held on January 11th, 2021, at which meeting a quorum was present by a roll call vote of said members as hereinbefore set forth; that said resolution was ordered to take immediate effect.

Teri Webber, Clerk

RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP Hardship Exemption Application

I, _____, being the owner and resident of the property listed below, apply for tax relief under MCL 211.7u of the General Property Tax Act. The real and personal property of persons who, in the judgement of the supervisor and board of review, by reason of poverty are unable to contribute toward the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or in part from taxation under this act.

Property Code Number: _____

Property Description: _____

Property Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Marital Status: _____

Age of Applicant: _____ Age of Spouse: _____

Number of Dependents: _____ Age of Dependents: _____

Have you applied for Homestead Property Tax Credit this year? _____

How much was your Property Tax Credit? _____

****Attach copy of 1040 CR and federal or state income tax return for each person residing in the homestead, if filed for the current or preceding year.****

REAL ESTATE: Is home paid for? _____ Unpaid balance: _____

Name of mortgage company? _____

Monthly payment: _____ How long have you lived at this residence? _____

Do you own, or are you buying any other property? _____ If so, list below:

Property Address	Name of Owner	Assessed Value	Amount and Date of Last Taxes Paid

Income earned from above property: \$ _____

Name of employer: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Reason for Exemption Request

NOTICE: Any willful misstatements or misrepresentations made on this form may constitute perjury, which, under the law, is a felony punishable by fine or imprisonment.

NOTICE: A copy of your latest federal income tax return, state income tax return (MI-1040) and your Homestead Property Tax Credit claim (MI-1040CR 1, 2, 3 or 4) must be attached as proof of income.

NOTE: Do not sign until witnessed by the supervisor, assessor, board of review or notary public.

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF GENESEE**

_____ The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the statements made in the foregoing application are true and the he/she has no money, income or property other than mentioned herein.

Petitioner

Subscribed and sworn this _____ day of _____ 20_____.

Signature:

Supervisor, Assessor, Board of Review Member or Notary Public

This application shall be filed after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of board of review.

Address:

FOR BOARD OF REVIEW USE

Disposition by Board of Review

Date _____

Denied: _____ Approved: _____

Assessment reduced to: _____

Supervisor: _____

Chairperson: _____

Second Member: _____

Third Member: _____

List all income from salaries, Social Security, rents, pensions, unemployment compensation, disability, government pensions, workers' compensation, dividends, claims and judgements from lawsuits, alimony, child support and any other source.

Source of Income	Monthly or Annual Income

SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS: List all savings owned by you or your spouse, including savings accounts, postal savings, credit union shares, certificates of deposit, cash, stocks, bonds or similar investment.

Name of Financial Institution or Investments	Amount on Deposit	Current Interest Rate	Name on Account	Value of Investment

MOTOR VEHICLES IN HOUSEHOLD:

Make	Year	Monthly Payment	Balance Owed

LIST ALL PERSONS LIVING IN HOUSEHOLD:

Last Name	First Name	Age	Relationship to Claimant	Place of Employment	Contribution to Family Income

Poverty Exemption Affidavit

This form is issued under authority of Public Act 206 of 1893; MCL 211.7u.

INSTRUCTIONS: When completed, this document must accompany a taxpayer's Application for Poverty Exemption filed with the supervisor or the board of review of the local unit where the property is located. MCL 211.7u provides for a whole or partial property tax exemption on the principal residence of an owner of the property by reason of poverty and the inability to contribute toward the public charges. MCL 211.7u(2)(b) requires proof of eligibility for the exemption be provided to the board of review by supplying copies of federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including property tax credit returns, or by filing an affidavit for all persons residing in the residence who were not required to file federal or state income tax returns for the current or preceding tax year.

I, _____, swear and affirm by my signature below that I reside in the principal residence that is the subject of this Application for Poverty Exemption and that for the current tax year and the preceding tax year, I was not required to file a federal or state income tax return.

Address of Principal Residence: _____

Signature of Person Making Affidavit

Date