

RESOLUTION #
LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, JACKSON COUNTY

ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES FOR GRANTING OF POVERTY EXEMPTIONS
FROM PROPERTY TAXES

WHERE AS, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is required of the Township Board; and

WHERE AS, the principal residence of persons, who the Board of Review determines by reason of poverty to be unable to contribute to the public charge, is eligible for exemption in whole or in part from taxation under Public Act 390 of 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and

WHERE AS, pursuant to P.A. 390 of 1994, the Township of Liberty, Jackson County adopts the following guidelines for the 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;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT to be eligible, a person shall do all of the following on an annual basis:

1. Be an owner of and occupy as a principal residence the property for which an exemption is requested.
2. Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services shown in Attachment A.
3. File a claim with the Assessor or Board of Review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for the current or immediately preceding year, including any property tax credits, for all persons residing in the principal residence. Federal and state income tax returns are not required for a person residing in the principal residence if that person was not required to file a federal or state income tax return. Instead, Form 4988, Poverty Exemption Affidavit may be filed for all persons residing in the residence who were not required to file federal or state income tax returns in the current or immediately preceding year.
4. File a claim reporting that the combined assets of all persons do not exceed the current guidelines shown in Attachment B. Assets include but are not limited to, real estate other than the principal residence, personal property, motor vehicles, recreational vehicles and equipment, certificates of deposit, savings accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, life insurance, retirement funds, etc.
5. Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested.

6. Produce, if requested, a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested.
7. The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1, but one day prior to the last day of the December Board of Review. The filing of this claim constitutes an appearance before the Board of Review for the purpose of preserving the right of appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that the Board of Review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption.

ATTACHMENT A

POVERTY LEVEL GUIDELINE FOR 2022 TAX YEAR	
Size of Family Unit	Household Income
1	\$12,880
2	\$17,420
3	\$21,960
4	\$26,500
5	\$31,040
6	\$35,580
7	\$40,120
8	\$44,660
For each additional person	\$4,540

ATTACHMENT B

Asset Test

The Township of Liberty's cumulative value of assets allowed for a Poverty Exemption shall be \$10,000. The purpose of an asset test is to determine the resources available: cash, fixed assets or other property that could be converted to cash and used to pay property taxes in the year the poverty exemption is filed. A list of "assets" includes, but is not limited to:

- A second home, land, vehicles.
- Recreational vehicles such as campers, motor-homes, boats, and ATV's.
- Buildings other than the residence.
- Jewelry, antiques, artwork.
- Equipment, other personal property of value.
- Bank accounts (over \$1,000), stocks.
- Money received from the sale of property, such as stocks, bonds, a house or car (unless a person is in the specific business of selling such property).
- Withdrawals from bank deposits and borrowed money (including reverse mortgage's).
- Gifts, loans, lump-sum inheritances and one-time insurance payments.
- Food or housing received in lieu of wages and the value of food and fuel produced and consumed on farms.

- Federal non-cash benefits programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps, and school lunches.

“Assets” do not include the value of the principal residence and do not include the homestead property tax credit as it is not to be considered income for poverty exemptions purposes. Assets exempt from consideration are the homesteaded property with furnishings, bank accounts up to \$1,000, and one motor vehicle. That motor vehicle shall be valued no greater than \$10,000.

RESOLVED BY:
SUPPORTED BY:

VOTE:

ADOPTION DATE:

CERTIFICATION OF THE CLERK

The undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Clerk of Liberty Township, Jackson County, Michigan, hereby certifies that (1) the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board at a regular meeting, held on February 2, 2021, at which meeting a quorum was present and remained throughout, (2) the original thereof is on file in the records in my office, (3) the meeting was conducted, and public notice thereof was given, pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act (Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended) and (4) minutes of such meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required thereby.

Debbie Sheehan
Township Clerk