PARK TOWNSHIP
PROPERTY TAX POVERTY EXEMPTION GUIDELINES
(Pursuant to Public Act 253 of 2020) Adopted by the Park Township Board.
Adjusted to Federal Poverty Standards of 11-19-24 for 2025 assessments.

Filing Requirements

In order to file and qualify for the property tax poverty exemption, the claimant **must do all** of the following and **meet each** of the following requirements **annually**:

1. Own and occupy the homestead property for which the exemption is requested.
2. File a claim with the board of review after January 1st but before the day prior to the last day of the board of review on a form provided by Park Township. (Note: The filing of this claim constitutes an appearance before the March board of review for the purpose of preserving the right to appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.)
3. Provide a **COPY** of the **MOST RECENT federal and state income tax returns** for **all** persons residing in the homestead including any **property tax credit returns.** These will stay with the application and cannot be returned to you.
4. Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested by the supervisor or board of review.
5. Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is being requested if required by the supervisor or board of review.
6. Meet the federal poverty income standards as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget which will be discussed later in these guidelines under the heading "Income Standards".
7. Report divestment of assets on the required application form.
8. Meet the asset levels set by the Park Township Board
9. Meet any other tests that may be set by the Park Township Board.

INCOME STANDARDS

The following are current poverty threshold Income Standards provided by the United States Office of Management and Budget and issued to Michigan assessors by the Michigan State Tax Commission in Bulletin No. 17 of 2024.

1. In order to meet the requirement of the Income Standards the claimants' annual gross household income cannot exceed the amounts stated below.

Number of Persons Residing in Household	Poverty Threshold Maximum Household Income
1 person	$ 15,060
2 persons	$ 20,440
3 persons	$ 25,820
4 persons	$ 31,200
5 persons	$ 36,580
6 persons	$ 41,960
7 persons	$ 47,340
8 persons	$ 52,720
For each additional person, add	$ 5,380

Ordinary income includes the following:

1. Money wages and salaries before any deductions.
2. Net receipts from non-farm self-employment. These are receipts from a person's own business, professional enterprise, or partnership, after deductions for business expenses.
3. Net receipts from farm self-employment. These are receipts from a farm which one operates as an owner, renter, or share cropper, after deductions for farm operating expenses.
4. Regular payments from Social Security, Railroad Retirement, unemployment compensation, strike benefits from union funds, workers compensation, veteran's payments, public assistance.
5. Alimony, child support, and military family allotments or other regular support from an absent family member for someone not living in the household.
6. Private pensions, government employee pensions (including military retirement pay), and regular insurance or annuity payments.

7. College or university scholarships, grants, fellowships, and assistant ships.
8. Dividends, interest, net rental income, net royalties, periodic receipts from estates or trusts, and net gambling or lottery winnings.

Ordinary income does not include the following, except as provided in number 6 above:
1. Money received from the sale or property, such as stocks, bonds, a house, or a car, unless the claimant is in the business of selling such property.
2. Withdrawals of bank deposits and borrowed money.
3. Income tax refunds and one-time insurance payments.
4. Food or housing received in lieu of wages and the value of food and fuel produced and consumed on farms.
5. Federal non-cash benefit programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps and school lunches.
6. Gifts and lump-sum inheritances are not considered as ordinary income; however dividends, interest, rental proceeds, royalties, inheritances, and other similar receipts received on a period basis, which may be in the form of a gift or other form, including receipts resulting from divestment of assets, and which may have the appearance of income, shall be considered as unearned income and shall be included in the determination of income eligibility.

ASSET STANDARDS

Asset Eligibility Limitations

In order to meet the requirements for assets, the total current fair market value of the claimant's household assets **shall not exceed $50,000.**

Definition of Assets (Non-Inclusive)

Assets include, but are not limited to the cash value of savings accounts and shares, certificates of deposit, investments such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds, deferred compensation accounts, equity in real estate other than the homestead for which the exemption is claimed, motor vehicles other than one primary transportation vehicle, jewelry, coins and other collectibles, precious metals, and other similar possessions which are not essential to the subsistence or health and well-being of the claimant. Gifts, lump-sum inheritances, dividends, interest, rental proceeds, royalties, and other receipts received in the form of a gift, or as a result of asset divestment, shall be considered an asset if received on a one-time lump-sum basis and shall be included in the determination of asset eligibility.

Divestment of Assets

Divestment means a transfer of a resource. Transfer of a resource means giving up all or partial ownership in (or rights to) a resource. Examples include, but are not limited to, selling an asset, giving an asset away, refusing an inheritance, giving up the right to receive income, and other similar divestment actions.

If an application for property tax exemption has divested any assets during the period of 24 months preceding the date of the application, then such divestment shall be considered in the determination of eligibility.

ADDITIONAL STANDARDS

Partial Poverty Exemption

Public Act 253 of 2020 authorizes partial poverty exemptions. A partial poverty exemption is an exemption of only part of the taxable value of the property for which an exemption is claimed, rather than the entire taxable value.

Appeal

A property owner may appeal the March board of review's decision on a poverty exemption claim to the Michigan Tax Tribunal by June 30. An appeal of a July or December board of review poverty exemption decision may be made to the Michigan Tax Tribunal within 30 days of the decision. Appeals are to be made in writing to Michigan Tax Tribunal, P.O. Box 30232, Lansing, MI 48909.