

OSHTEMO CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN

**POVERTY EXEMPTIONS GUIDELINES – 2023**

Meeting of the Township Board on December 13, 2022

WHEREAS, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is within the purview of the Township Board; and

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the 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 Public Act 390, 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to PA 390, 1994 Oshtemo Charter Township, Kalamazoo County adopts the following guidelines for the 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.
- (2) File a claim with the Supervisor or Board of Review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead.
- (3) Produce a valid driver's 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 standards as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget.

(6) The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1, but at least a week before the start of the March Board of Review, July Board of Review or December Board of Review.

Poverty exemption standards shall be as follows:

The following are the poverty thresholds as of December 31, 2022, for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2023 assessments:

Size of Family Unit	2023 Poverty Guidelines (Federal)	2023 Qualifying Income Level (Per Township Policy)
1	13590	16987
2	18310	22887
3	23030	28787
4	27750	34687
5	32470	40587
6	37190	46487
7	41910	52387
8	46630	58287
For each additional person	4720	5900

1. Applicants must complete an application, except for their signature, and return it in person to the Assessor's Office.
2. Applications must be signed and witnessed by an employee of the Township and filed with the Assessor after January 1 but at least a week before the start of the March Board of Review, July Board of Review or December Board of Review.
3. Applicant must submit the previous year's Federal Income Tax Return and State Income Tax Return.
4. Applications may be reviewed by the Board without applicant being present, however, the Board may request the applicant be physically present to respond to questions; and may be called upon to appear on short notice.
5. Answers to questions regarding the applicant's financial affairs, health or medical expenses, employment status of those residing in the residence may be requested before the meeting of the Board.
6. Applicants will be administered an oath of truth.

7. An asset test considering all assets owned by the applicant other than the applicant's homestead vehicle and normal household goods will be used in determining whether relief should be granted. Homeowners with assets in excess of \$25,000 may not be eligible for tax exemption consideration.
8. The Board may grant property tax relief based on poverty annually.
9. Applicant may be subject to investigation by the Township to verify information submitted or statements made in regard to a tax exemption claim.
10. The meeting may be recorded, and minutes will be kept of all proceedings of the Board of Review and all meetings held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.
11. The Board of Review shall follow the policy and guidelines of Oshtemo Charter Township as set forth in this resolution in granting or denying an exemption unless the Board of Review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be deviation from the policy and guidelines and the substantial and compelling reasons are communicated in writing to the applicant.
12. Applicants will be evaluated based on data submitted to the Board of Review, testimony taken from the applicant and information gathered from any source by the Township.
13. Those homeowners who meet the income and asset limitations set forth herein may be granted an exemption or partial exemption.

A formal motion was made by Zak Ford, seconded by Dusty Farmer that the Board of Review follow the above-stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption.

The following voted "Aye":

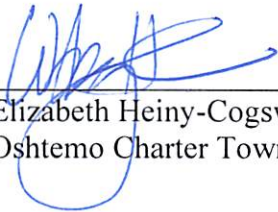
Libby Heiny-Cogswell, Dusty Farmer, Clare Buszka, Zak Ford, Cheri Bell, Kristin Cole, Kizzy Bradford

The following voted "Nay":

The following were absent:

The following "Abstained":

The Supervisor declared the Formal Motion had been adopted.

  
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Elizabeth Heiny-Cogswell, Supervisor  
Oshtemo Charter Township

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CERTIFICATE

I, Dusty Farmer, the duly elected and acting Clerk of the Charter Township of Oshtemo, hereby certify that the foregoing Formal Motion was adopted by the Township Board of said Charter Township at a regular meeting of said Board held on December 3, 2022, at which meeting \_\_\_ members were present, and voted upon the same as indicated in said Minutes; that said meeting was held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of the State of Michigan.

  
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Dusty Farmer, Township Clerk