

2024 HARDSHIP EXEMPTION APPLICATION AND GUIDELINES
THIS APPLICATION SHOULD BE RETURNED TO:

City of Flint, Assessing Division. 1101 S Saginaw St, Flint MI 48502

2024 City of Flint

To be considered for a hardship exemption, **the following steps must be followed:**

1. The Petitioner must complete this application in full, including signatures on the last page. Return the application and required income documents to the Assessing Department.
2. Per City of Flint Resolution, **you must attach signed copies of the following for all persons living in the household:**
 - ___ **2023 FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURN (1040) OR**
 - ___ **2023 W 2's & 1099's. OR**
 - ___ **2023 MICHIGAN INCOME TAX RETURN (MI-1040) OR**
 - ___ **2023 SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT STATEMENT (SSA-1099)**
 - ___ **2023 HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX CREDIT FORM (MI-1040CR)**
 - ___ **YEAR END STATEMENTS FOR ASSET INFORMATION (SEE LIST ON PG 5 OF 8)**
 - ___ **IF YOU'RE CLAIMING NO INCOME, YOU MUST SUBMIT A DETAILED & NOTARIZED LETTER EXPLAINING HOW EXPENSES ARE BEING MET.**
 - ___ **IF BILLS ARE PAID BY FRIEND/FAMILY MEMBER OR YOU RECEIVED MONEY FROM A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER, YOU MUST PROVIDE A SIGNED AND NOTARIZED LETTER FROM THAT PERSON(S) STATING HOW MUCH FINANCIAL SUPPORT THEY GIVE**
3. Produce a valid driver's license or other form of picture identification;
4. Be able to produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which the exemption is being requested, **if not in Assessor's records**;
5. Meet the federal poverty income guidelines for the household (see page 2), which are updated annually in the federal register by the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and
6. Meet the claimant and total household **asset levels** set by the Flint City Council.

If your application does not include copies of the above documents, it will be considered incomplete and therefore ineligible for a Hardship Exemption.

Hardship Exemption as defined by the Michigan Compiled Laws is as follows:

Section 211.7u: The principal residence of persons who, in the judgment 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.

Please be aware that as an applicant for Hardship Exemption, you must also comply with the following sections of the Michigan Compiled Laws:

Section 211.116 Perjury: Any person who, under any of the proceedings required or permitted by this act, shall willfully swear falsely, will be guilty of perjury and subject to its penalties.

If received timely, your application will be presented at the next scheduled Board of Review. The Board of Review schedule for 2024 is as follows:

March: Begins on Monday, March 11, 2024
 July: Tuesday, July 12, 2024
 December: Tuesday, December 6, 2024

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Assessing Department at 810-766-7255

**INCOME & ASSET GUIDELINES
 FOR HARDSHIP EXEMPTIONS**

If your income exceeds the amounts shown or your assets exceed \$15,000 you are **NOT** eligible for a Hardship Exemption.

The applicant **shall not** be eligible for consideration if their total household income exceeds 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. The excluded 15% of the total household income shall be earmarked for family medical needs.
 For 2024, the limits are:

Family Unit:	Federal Poverty Guidelines For 2023:	Adjusted Annual Household Income Can Not Exceed:
Family unit of 1 member	\$14,580	\$21,870
Family unit of 2 members	\$19,720	\$29,580
Family unit of 3 members	\$24,860	\$37,290
Family unit of 4 members	\$30,000	\$45,000
Family unit of 5 members	\$35,140	\$52,710
Family unit of 6 members	\$40,280	\$60,420
Family unit of 7 members	\$45,420	\$68,130
Family unit of 8 members	\$50,560	\$75,840
Each family member greater than 8 years of age	\$5,140	\$7,710

When determining any poverty exemption, all assets of the family unit, as well as all available sources of income or funds shall be considered.

Asset Eligibility

Applicants can have **no more than \$15,000 in assets** to be eligible for consideration and no more cash than an amount equal to one month’s gross household income. Assets do not include the homestead or one (1) automobile. Assets do include: stocks, bonds, mutual funds, insurance policies, coin collections, boats, ORVs, motorcycles, recreational vehicles, second homes or sellable property, retirement accounts, jewelry, etc.

**GUIDELINES BY WHICH
HARDSHIP EXEMPTIONS ARE DETERMINED**

1. Completed application form and all required documents and attachments MUST be filed with the City Assessor's Office no later than:

March 12, 2024 for action by the March Board of Review; or

July 12, 2024 for action by the July Board of Review; or

December 09 2024 for action by the December Board of Review.

Sign the form when you return it to the City Assessor's Office

NOTE: The filing of a claim constitutes an appearance before the Board of Review. Also, the dates for filing will be updated annually in accordance with the State of Michigan Property Tax Calendar.

2. The Board of Review determines if Income Standards have been met.

3. The Board of Review determines if Asset limits have been met.
 - a. Cash assets to the total household may not exceed an amount equal to one month's gross household income. Cash assets are defined as cash, money held in checking or savings accounts, money markets and other financial institution accounts, and/or instruments or securities which can be readily converted to cash.

 - b. Non-cash assets to the total household may not exceed \$10,000. Non-cash assets are defined as those which are not considered to be cash assets, as defined above. The following assets are excluded from this limit:
 1. Applicant's principal residence
 2. Applicant's household personal property
 3. Assets not accessible by the applicant, co-owner or any member of the applicant's household.
 4. All applicants, if approved by the Board of Review, shall have their current year taxable value reduced by 50%. ***This does not include any special assessments that are assessed to the property (Light Fee, Garbage, etc).***
 5. The Board of Review will consider all revenue and non-revenue producing assets of the owner and all members of the household. Any attempt to hide and/or shift assets to another person, business or corporation shall be grounds for denial.

4. Applications must be filed **every year**. If granted, **the exemption is for current year only**.
5. All applications will be reviewed by the Board of Review. The Board may ask applicants, or their authorized agents, to be physically present to answer questions. Teleconferencing for the purpose of asking questions of the applicant is allowable if the applicant is not able to attend.
6. Applicants, or their authorized agents, may have to answer questions regarding such subject as financial affairs, health and/or the status of people living in the principal residence at a meeting that is open to the public.
7. All applications will be evaluated based on data and statements given to the Board by the applicant. The Board can also use information gathered from any other source.
8. The Board of Review shall follow the policy and guidelines established herein when granting or denying an exemption.
9. Applicants may be subject to investigation of their entire financial and property records by the City. This would be done to verify information given or statements made to the Board of Review or assessor in regards to the poverty tax claim.
10. Household income limits are adjusted each year to comply with the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
11. Applicants will be sent a written notice of the Board of Review's final decision. An applicant may appeal the Board of Review's decision to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. An assessor may also appeal the Board of Review's decision. Appeals must be filed with the Michigan Tax Tribunal by the following dates:

July 31st for a decision made by the March Board of Review or
35 days from the decision of the July or December Board of Review

THE GENERAL PROPERTY TAX ACT (EXCERPT)

Act 206 of 1893

Sec. 7u. (1) The principal residence of a person who, in the judgment of the supervisor and board of review, by reason of poverty, is unable to contribute toward the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or in part from the collection of taxes under this act. This section does not apply to the property of a corporation.

(2) To be eligible for exemption under this section, a person shall, subject to subsections (6) and (8), do all of the following on an annual basis:

(a) Own and occupy as a principal residence the property for which an exemption is requested. The person shall affirm this ownership and occupancy status in writing by filing a form prescribed by the state tax commission with the local assessing unit.

(b) File a claim with the board of review on a form prescribed by the state tax commission and provided by the local assessing unit, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year. 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 in the tax year in which the exemption under this section is claimed or in the immediately preceding tax year. If a person was not required to file a federal or state income tax return in the tax year in which the exemption under this section is claimed or in the immediately preceding tax year, an affidavit in a form prescribed by the state tax commission may be accepted in place of the federal or state income tax return. The filing of a claim under this subsection constitutes an appearance before the board of review for the purpose of preserving the claimant's right to appeal the decision of the board of review regarding the claim.

(c) Produce a valid driver license or other form of identification if requested by the supervisor or board of review.

(d) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested if required by the supervisor or board of review.

(e) Meet the federal poverty guidelines published in the prior calendar year in the Federal Register by the United States Department of Health and Human Services under its authority to revise the poverty line under 42 USC 9902, or alternative guidelines adopted by the governing body of the local assessing unit provided the alternative guidelines do not provide income eligibility requirements less than the federal guidelines.

(3) The application for an exemption under this section must be filed after January 1 but before the day prior to the last day of the board of review.

(4) The governing body of the local assessing unit shall determine and make available to the public the policy and guidelines used for the granting of exemptions under this section. If the local assessing unit maintains a website, the local assessing unit shall make the policy and guidelines, and the form described in subsection (2)(b), available to the public on the website. The guidelines must include, but are not limited to, the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and total household income and assets.

(5) The board of review shall follow the policy and guidelines of the local assessing unit in granting or denying an exemption under this section. If a person claiming an exemption under this section is qualified under the eligibility requirements in subsection (2), the board of review shall grant the exemption in whole or in part, as follows:

(a) A full exemption equal to a 100% reduction in taxable value for the tax year in which the exemption is granted.

(b) A partial exemption equal to 1 of the following:

(i) A 50% or 25% reduction in taxable value for the tax year in which the exemption is granted.

(ii) As approved by the state tax commission, any other percentage reduction in taxable value for the tax year in which the exemption is granted, applied in a form and manner prescribed by the state tax commission.

(6) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, a local assessing unit may permit by resolution a principal residence exempt from the collection of taxes under this section in tax year 2019 or 2020, or both, to remain exempt under this section in tax years 2021, 2022, and 2023 without subsequent reapplication for the exemption, provided there has not been a change in ownership or occupancy status of the person eligible for exemption under subsection (2), and may permit a principal residence exempt for the first time from the collection of taxes under this section in tax year 2021, 2022, or 2023 to remain exempt under this section for up to 3 additional years after its initial year of exempt status without subsequent reapplication for the exemption, provided there has not been a change in ownership or occupancy status of the person eligible for exemption under subsection (2), if the person who establishes initial eligibility under subsection (2) receives a fixed income solely from public assistance that is not subject to significant annual increases beyond the rate of inflation, such as federal Supplemental Security Income or Social Security disability or retirement benefits. Both of the following apply to a person who obtains an extended exemption under this subsection:

(a) The person shall file with the local assessing unit, in a form and manner prescribed by the state tax commission, an affidavit rescinding the exemption as extended under this subsection within 45 days after either of the following, if applicable:

(i) The person ceases to own or occupy the principal residence for which the exemption was extended.

(ii) The person experiences a change in household assets or income that defeats eligibility for the exemption under subsection (2).

(b) If the person fails to file a rescission as required under subdivision (a) and the property is later determined to be ineligible for the exemption under this section, the person is subject to repayment of any additional taxes with interest as described in this subdivision. Upon discovery that the property is no longer eligible for the exemption under this section, the assessor shall remove the exemption of that property and, if the tax roll is in the local tax collecting unit's possession, amend the tax roll to reflect the removal of the exemption, and the local treasurer shall, within 30 days of the date of the discovery, issue a corrected tax bill for any additional taxes with interest at the rate of 1% per month or fraction of a month computed from the date the taxes were last payable without interest. If the tax roll is in the county treasurer's possession, the tax roll must be amended to reflect the removal of the exemption and the county treasurer shall, within 30 days of the date of the removal, prepare and submit a supplemental tax bill for any additional taxes, together with interest at the rate of 1% per month or fraction of a month computed from the date the taxes were last payable without interest. Interest on any tax set forth in a corrected or supplemental tax bill again begins to accrue 60 days after the date the corrected or supplemental tax bill is issued at the rate of 1% per month or fraction of a month. Taxes levied in a corrected or supplemental tax bill must be returned as delinquent on the March 1 in the year immediately succeeding the year in which the corrected or supplemental tax bill is issued. 3

(7) A person who files a claim under this section is not prohibited from also appealing the assessment on the property for which that claim is made before the board of review in the same year.

(8) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, if the assessor determines that a principal residence of a person by reason of poverty is still eligible for this

exemption and the property was exempt from the collection of taxes under this section in tax year 2019 or 2020, or both, the property shall remain exempt from the collection of taxes under this section through tax year 2021 if, on or before February 15, 2021, the governing body of the local assessing unit in which the principal residence is located adopts a resolution that continues the exemption through tax year 2021 for all principal residences within the local assessing unit that were exempt from the collection of taxes under this section in tax year 2019 or 2020, or both. The local assessing unit may require the owner of a principal residence exempt from the collection of taxes under this subsection to affirm ownership, poverty, and occupancy status in writing by filing with the local assessing unit the form prescribed by the state tax commission under subsection (2)(a).

(9) A local assessing unit that adopts a resolution under subsection (6) or (8) must develop and implement an audit program that includes, but is not limited to, the audit of all information filed under subsection (2). If property is determined to be ineligible for exemption as a result of an audit, the person who filed for the exemption under subsection (2) is subject to repayment of additional taxes including interest to be paid as provided in subsection (6)(b). The state tax commission shall issue a bulletin providing further guidance to local assessing units on the development and implementation of an audit program under this subsection. (10) As used in this section, "principal residence" means principal residence or qualified agricultural property as those terms are defined in section 7dd.

Application for MCL 211.7u Poverty Exemption

This form is issued under the authority of the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893, MCL 211.7u.

MCL 211.7u of the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893, provides a property tax exemption for the principal residence of persons who, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute toward the public charges. This application is to be used to apply for the exemption and must be filed with the Board of Review where the property is located. This application may be submitted to the city or township the property is located in each year on or after January 1.

To be considered complete, this application must: 1) be completed in its entirety, 2) include information regarding all members residing within the household, and 3) include all required documentation as listed within the application. Please write legibly and attach additional pages as necessary.

PART 1: PERSONAL INFORMATION — Petitioner must list all required personal information.				
Petitioner's Name			Daytime Phone Number	
Age of Petitioner	Marital Status	Age of Spouse	Number of Legal Dependents	
Property Address of Principal Residence		City	State	ZIP Code
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if applied for Homestead Property Tax Credit		Amount of Homestead Property Tax Credit		
PART 2: REAL ESTATE INFORMATION				
List the real estate information related to your principal residence. Be prepared to provide a deed, land contract or other evidence of ownership of the property at the Board of Review meeting.				
Property Parcel Code Number		Name of Mortgage Company		
Unpaid Balance Owed on Principal Residence	Monthly Payment	Length of Time at this Residence		
Property Description				
PART 3: ADDITIONAL PROPERTY INFORMATION				
List information related to any other property owned by you or any member residing in the household.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if you own, or are buying, other property. If checked, complete the information below.			Amount of Income Earned from other Property	
1	Property Address	City	State	ZIP Code
	Name of Owner(s)	Assessed Value	Date of Last Taxes Paid	Amount of Taxes Paid
2	Property Address	City	State	ZIP Code
	Name of Owner(s)	Assessed Value	Date of Last Taxes Paid	Amount of Taxes Paid

PART 4: EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION — List your current employment information.

Name of Employer			
Address of Employer	City	State	ZIP Code
Contact Person	Employer Telephone Number		

PART 5: INCOME SOURCES

List all income sources, including but not limited to: salaries, Social Security, rents, pensions, IRAs (individual retirement accounts), unemployment compensation, disability, government pensions, worker's compensation, dividends, claims and judgments from lawsuits, alimony, child support, friend or family contribution, reverse mortgage, or any other source of income, for all persons residing at the property.

Source of Income	Monthly or Annual Income (indicate which)

PART 6: CHECKING, SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT INFORMATION

List any and all savings owned by all household members, including but not limited to: checking accounts, savings accounts, postal savings, credit union shares, certificates of deposit, cash, stocks, bonds, or similar investments, for all persons residing at the property.

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

PART 7: LIFE INSURANCE — List all policies held by all household members.

Name of Insured	Amount of Policy	Monthly Payments	Policy Paid in Full	Name of Beneficiary	Relationship to Insured

PART 8: MOTOR VEHICLE INFORMATION

All motor vehicles (including motorcycles, motor homes, camper trailers, etc.) held or owned by any person residing within the household must be listed.

Make	Year	Monthly Payment	Balance Owed

PART 9: HOUSEHOLD OCCUPANTS — List all persons living in the household.				
First and Last Name	Age	Relationship to Applicant	Place of Employment	\$ Contribution to Family Income

PART 10: PERSONAL DEBT — List all personal debt for all household members.					
Creditor	Purpose of Debt	Date of Debt	Original Balance	Monthly Payment	Balance Owed

PART 11: MONTHLY EXPENSE INFORMATION			
The amount of monthly expenses related to the principal residence for each category must be listed. Indicate N/A as necessary.			
Heating	Electric	Water	Phone
Cable	Food	Clothing	Health Insurance
Garbage	Daycare	Car Expense (gas, repair, etc.)	
Other (type and amount)	Other (type and amount)	Other (type and amount)	
Other (type and amount)	Other (type and amount)	Other (type and amount)	

NOTICE: Per MCL 211.7u(2)(b), federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year must be submitted with this application. 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 in the tax year in which the exemption under this section is claimed or in the immediately preceding tax year.

PART 11: POLICY AND GUIDELINES ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The governing body of the local assessing unit shall determine and make available to the public the policy and guidelines used for the granting of exemptions under MCL 211.7u. In order to be eligible for the exemption, the applicant must meet the federal poverty guidelines published in the prior calendar year in the Federal Register by the United States Department of Health and Human Services under its authority to revise the poverty line under 42 USC 9902, or alternative guidelines adopted by the governing body of the local assessing unit so long as the alternative guidelines do not provide income eligibility requirements less than the federal guidelines. The policy and guidelines must include, but are not limited to, the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and total household income and assets. The combined assets of all persons must not exceed the limits set forth in the guidelines adopted by the local assessing unit.

The applicant has reviewed the applicable policy and guidelines adopted by the city or township, including the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and total household income and assets.

PART 12: CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the best of my knowledge that the information provided in this form is complete, accurate and I am eligible for the exemption from property taxes pursuant to Michigan Compiled Law, Section 211.7u.

Printed Name	Signature	Date
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This application shall be filed after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of the local unit's December Board of Review.

Decision of the March Board of Review may be appealed by petition to the Michigan Tax Tribunal by July 31 of the current year. A July or December Board of Review decision may be appealed to the Michigan Tax Tribunal by petition within 35 days of decision. A copy of the Board of Review decision must be included with the petition.

Michigan Tax Tribunal
PO Box 30232
Lansing MI 48909

Phone: 517-335-9760
E-mail: taxtrib@michigan.gov