

POVERTY EXEMPTION GUIDELINES FOR 2020

(UNDER MCL 211.7u - NEW REQUIREMENTS)
USING 12-31-2019 INCOME STANDARDS FOR 2020

NEW POVERTY EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS EFFECTIVE 1994

PA 390 of 1994 states that the poverty exemption shall not be granted to property owned by a corporation.

Starting 1995, PA 390 of 1994 states that the governing body of the local assessing unit shall determine the policies and guidelines that the local assessing unit will use when deciding whether to grant poverty exemptions.

PA 390 requires that the poverty exemption guidelines include the asset levels of the entire household. The determination of the amount of the asset levels is left to the discretion of the local governing body. Local governing bodies are required by the Act to set income and asset levels for their poverty exemption guidelines.

In order to qualify for the poverty exemption, the claimant must meet all of the tests set by the local governing body.

PA 390 requires that local assessing units make available to the public their policies and guidelines for the granting of poverty exemptions. The Board of Review shall follow the policies and guidelines of the local assessing unit when granting or denying a poverty exemption. The same standards shall apply to each claimant in the unit for the assessment year.

PA 390 requires that the poverty exemption guidelines set by the governing body of the local assessing unit include income and asset level. The Act further requires that the income levels NOT be set lower than the federal poverty income standards.

PARTIAL POVERTY EXEMPTIONS:

Beginning in 1995, PA 390 of 1994 authorizes partial poverty exemptions. A partial poverty exemption is an exemption of only a part of the taxable value of the property rather than the entire taxable value.

FILING FOR THE POVERTY EXEMPTION:

In order to be eligible for the poverty exemption, the claimant must do all of the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Own and occupy as a homestead the property for which the exemption is requested.
- 2) File a Claim with the supervisor/assessor or board of review after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of the Board of Review on a form provided by the local assessing unit.
- 3) Provide Federal and State income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead including any property tax credit returns. Or signed affidavit that property owner does not file tax returns.
- 4) Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested.
- 5) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is being requested, if requested.
- 6) Meet the federal poverty income standards adopted by the governing body of the local assessing unit.
- 7) Meet the asset levels set by the governing body of the local assessing unit.

A claimant may Request a Poverty Exemption and Appeal the Property's Assessment to the Board of Review in the current year.

FEDERAL POVERTY INCOME STANDARDS:

The following are the federal poverty income standards that the United States Office of Management and Budget recommend that federal departments and agencies use. *City of Laingsburg* has adopted these Income Levels for the basis of granting "Poverty Exemptions." These amounts are adjusted annually.

To be eligible for a poverty exemption in the City of Laingsburg FOR 2020 your gross income may NOT exceed these guidelines. If your gross income exceeds the levels listed below you do not qualify for a Poverty Exemption:

1 person	\$ 12,490
2 persons	\$ 16,910
3 persons.....	\$ 21,330
4 persons.....	\$ 25,750
5 persons.....	\$ 30,170
6 persons.....	\$ 34,590
7 persons.....	\$ 39,010
8 persons.....	\$ 43,430
For Each Additional Person add.....	\$ 4,420

MAXIMUM ASSET STANDARDS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A POVERTY EXEMPTION
(PA 390 of 1994 states that the poverty exemption guidelines established by the governing body of the local assessing unit shall include an asset level test)

The City of Laingsburg has adopted the following MAXIMUM ASSET STANDARDS for a household to be eligible for a POVERTY EXEMPTION. The below asset levels DO NOT include the value of your homestead. (Per Tribunal ruling 08-13-97, Docket #236230), and the equity of the homestead should not be included within the asset test to be valid. (Asset levels are increased by the CPI each year.

Assets, (except the original homestead and minimum zoning required footprint, essential household goods and the first \$5,000 of the market value of a motor vehicle), shall not exceed \$4,000 (four thousand) dollars for individual applicants and/or \$6,000 (six thousand dollars) per household if more than one financial contributor.

If your household assets exceed this amount you are NOT eligible for a POVERTY EXEMPTION.