Middlebury Township
Poverty Exemptions Guidelines
Resolution 2017-01

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, Middlebury Township, Shiawassee 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, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.

3) Produce a valid drivers' 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 before the day prior to the last day of board of review.

7) Comply with any additional eligibility requirements as determined by the Township board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the board of review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the board of review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these are communicated in writing to the claimant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if asset levels exceed the items/amounts below, the individual/property owner **shall not be eligible for a Property Tax Poverty Exemption.**

1. The homestead being claimed and personal property used in connection with the use and occupancy of the homestead.

2. All assets up to a cumulative dollar value of $ 25,000

At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Township of Middlebury held on the 11 th day of January 2017, board member Richard Semans moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution and board member Carolyn Stevens supported the motion.

Voting for:
Stevens Yes, Semans Yes, Kiger Yes, Brown Yes, Herendeen Yes

Voting Against:
none

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

M L Herendeen

Michael Herendeen - Supervisor

Rose Brown

Rose Brown - Clerk

POVERTY GUIDELINES

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF MIDDLEBURY TOWNSHIP, SHIAWASSEE COUNTY

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, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.

3) Produce a valid drivers' 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 before the day prior to the last day of board of review.

7) Comply with any additional eligibility requirements as determined by the Township board.

If **asset levels exceed** the items/amounts below, the individual/property owner **shall not be eligible for a Property Tax Poverty Exemption.**

1. The homestead being claimed and personal property used in connection with the use and occupancy of the homestead.

2. All other assets up to a cumulative dollar value of **$ 25,000**

The following are the federal poverty income standards, which the United States Office of Management and Budget recommends that federal departments and agencies use. The standards are actually compiled and published by the Bureau of the Census, which refers to them as "poverty thresholds."

The governing body of the local assessing unit has the option of considering the age of the resident(s) when establishing their guidelines. This provision applies only when one or two persons reside in the homestead, because there are no age-related thresholds for three or more persons in the homestead.

FEDERAL POVERTY INCOME STANDARDS FOR 2017 ASSESSMENTS

The following are the federal poverty income standards as of 12-31-16 for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2017 assessments.

Size of Family Unit	Poverty Guidelines
1	$ 11,880
2	$ 16,020
3	$ 20,160
4	$ 24,300
5	$ 28,440
6	$ 32,580
7	$ 36,730
8	$ 40,890
For each additional person	$4,160

Note: P.A. 135 of 2012 changed the requirements for filing documentation in support of a poverty exemption to allow an affidavit (Treasury Form 4988) to be filed for all persons residing in the residence who were not required to file federal or state income tax returns in the current year or in the immediately preceding year. This does include the owner of the property who is filing for the exemption.