

**SPAULDING TOWNSHIP
COUNTY OF SAGINAW, STATE OF MICHIGAN**

At a regular meeting of the Spaulding Township Board held on May 19, 2026, the following resolution was offered by Fortier and supported by Drums

RESOLUTION #26-05-19

**Resolution to Adopt
2026 Poverty Exemption, Income Guidelines and Asset Level Test Policy
(P.A. 206 of 1893 as amended by public act 253 of 2020, MCL 211.7u as amended)**

WHEREAS, 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 Public Act 253 of 2020 (MCL 211.7u); and

WHEREAS, the Township Board is required by Section 7u of the Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893 as amended by Public Act 253 of 2020 (MCL 211.7u as amended) to adopt guidelines for poverty exemptions; and

WHEREAS, the guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all residing in the household, and any persons listed on the deed, including any property tax credit returns filed in the current or immediately preceding year.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to MCL 211.7u the Spaulding Township Board, Saginaw County, Michigan adopts the following policy and guidelines the Board of Review shall follow in granting or denying a Hardship Exemption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Review shall follow the policy and guidelines in granting a Hardship Exemption without deviation from these guidelines. The same standards shall apply to each claimant in the township for the assessment year. Hardship Applicants are not prohibited from also appealing the assessment of property for which the hardship claim is made before the Board of Review in the same year.

**2026 REAL PROPERTY TAX POVERTY PARTIAL EXEMPTION GUIDELINES
FOR PROPERTY TAX RELIEF UNDER SECTION 211.7U, P.A. 206 OF 1893**

MCL 211.7u(1) of the Michigan General Property Tax Act defines Poverty, or Hardship Exemption, as a method to provide relief for those who, in the judgment of the Board of Review, are unable to fully contribute to the annual property tax burden of their principal residence due to their financial situation. To qualify for the Hardship Exemption, the claimant must meet all the following requirements. It may be possible that a claimant meets the income standard for the Hardship Exemption but does not meet the asset standard or other standards as outlined in these

guidelines. In this instance, the claimant would not qualify for the exemption even though the income standard was met.

1. Hardship Exemptions shall apply only to the Applicant's qualified Principal Residence. Under no circumstances shall a Hardship Exemption be granted or applied to the property of a business, partnership, or corporation.

2. The amount of relief due to hardship that shall be granted by the Board of Review for any Qualified Applicant shall be a full exemption equal to 100%, or a partial exemption equal to a 75%, 50%, 25% reduction in taxable value for the year in which the exemption is granted based on the income and assets level hereinafter set forth. PA 253 of 2020 lists the specific percentage of reduction that may be used by the Board of Review in granting a poverty exemption. MCL 211.7u(5) states that if a person claiming the poverty exemption meets all eligibility requirements, the board of review shall grant the poverty exemption, in whole or in part.

Income Standards for Eligibility Guidelines:

To be eligible for the exemption by reason of hardship, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis.

Applicant must be an owner of and occupy as a principal residence (as defined by MCL 211.7dd), the property for which an exemption is being requested and produce a copy of the Deed, Land Contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is being requested.

Applicants must annually complete in their entirety a State of Michigan form 5737 "APPLICATION FOR MCL 211.7U POVERTY EXEMPTION" and form 5739 "AFFIRMATION OF OWNERSHIP AND OCCUPANCY TO REMAIN EXEMPT BY REASON OF POVERTY" (MCL 211.7u(2)). All claims, including all required information listed below, must be filed with the Township Assessor, Supervisor or Board of Review for review of completeness and eligibility compliance. Applications are to be filed after January 1st and before the day prior to the last day of the March, July, or December Board of Review meetings for the assessment year. Incomplete applications and/or applications of taxpayers not meeting the eligibility requirements will be returned to the Applicant and will not be considered by the Board of Review. Applicants who wish to send a Representative to appear on their behalf must provide them with a Notarized Letter of Authorization. The Representative will be required to present a photo identification along with the letter. Applications meeting all eligibility requirements will be presented before the Board of Review.

Applicants must provide copies of the following forms, including all supporting documents and schedules, for all persons residing in the household, and any persons listed on the deed, filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year:

- a. Federal Income Tax Return (1040 or 1040A), Applicant must file this tax return even if they owe no income tax or are not required to file a Federal Income Tax Return if they meet the requirements for receiving an Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and any 1099's received.
- b. State of Michigan Income Tax Returns (MI-1040), Applicant must file this tax return even if they own no income tax or are not required to file a Michigan Income Tax Return if they were granted a Federal Income Tax Credit. The State will provide a 6% supplement EITC when the Applicant files his/her State Income Tax Return.
- c. If the Applicant did not file a Federal or State Income Tax return, they must complete and file an Income Tax Exemption Affidavit (Treasury Form 4988) for all persons residing in the residence who were not required to file in the current or the immediately preceding year, and who did not meet the qualifications for receiving an EITC.
- d. Michigan Homestead Property Tax Credit Claim (ML-1040CR).
- e. W-2 Forms
- f. Social Security Benefit Statement (form SSA-1099) for all persons residing in the household, who receive Social Security benefits.
- g. Proof of all sources of income if not included on the W-2 Forms, including any check stubs or receipts of other persons living in the household, or from State or Federal Government checks.
- h. Bank and/or credit union statements, for all current and preceding six months, of all checking and savings accounts.
- i. A copy of a valid Michigan driver's license or another legal form of photo identification, which indicates the residing property address for all persons in the household, and any persons listed on the deed.
- j. Copies of the most recent year's tax bills and taxable values of all property other than the Homesteaded/Principal Residence owned or partially owned by the hardship Applicant.

The township requires all applicants to provide copies of their originally filed tax returns and will not accept summary information reports or reproduced tax returns. Federal and State tax returns must be signed unless "e-filed" documents are included. The township retains the right and is authorized to request a copy of any household occupant's federal income tax returns from the Internal Revenue Service or Michigan Income Tax Returns from the Department of

Treasury pursuant to MCL 205.28, and all vehicle or titled asset registration information from the Secretary of State. Applicants may present other information in support of hardship status.

Applicants must meet the "Income Standards for Eligibility Guidelines" as adopted by the Township Board, provided such alternate guidelines do not provide income eligibility requirements less than the federal guidelines.

INCOME STANDARDS FOR ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES (as indexed annually)	
2026 Federal Income Poverty Levels	
Size of Family Unit (per person)	Poverty Threshold
1 person	\$15,960
2 people	\$21,640
3 people	\$27,320
4 people	\$33,000
5 people	\$38,680
6 people	\$44,360
7 people	\$50,040
8 people	\$55,720
Each Additional Person Adds:	\$5,680

The Board of Review shall consider income and assets from all sources and all occupants of the household, and any persons listed on the deed. When determining whether an applicant meets the hardship income standards adopted by the township, income includes:

- a. Money, wages, and salaries before deductions.
- b. Regular payments for social security, railroad retirement, unemployment, worker's compensation, veteran's payments, and public assistance.
- c. Gifts, loans, and contributions by all persons, whether living in the household or not.
- d. Alimony, child support, and military family allotments.
- e. Private pensions, government pensions, regular insurance or annuity payments, and inheritance payments.

Asset Level Test for Eligibility Guidelines:

An asset level test means the amount liquid and non-liquid assets that could be used or converted to cash for use in the payment of property taxes.

In addition to meeting the income level requirements as noted above, applicants must also meet requirements based on asset level, or otherwise stated requirements, such as saving accounts, checking accounts, certificates of deposit, investments, (including collectible items purchased for their investment value), stocks, bonds, inheritances, life insurance policies, interest earnings/dividends, retirement funds, and ownership in other real estate property, not to exceed \$50,000.

2026 ASSET LEVEL TEST STANDARDS FOR ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES					
Size of Family Unit (per person)	Board Action:	Board Action:	Board Action:	Board Action:	Board Action:
	100% Exemption if amount of Assets =	75% Exemption if amount of Assets =	50% Exemption if amount of Assets =	25% Exemption if amount of Assets =	No Hardship Relief Granted if
1 person	3,989 or less	3,990 – 7,979	7,980 – 11,969	11,970 – 15,959	Above 15,960
2 people	5,409 or less	5,410 – 10,819	10,820 – 16,229	16,230 – 21,639	Above 21,640
3 people	6,829 or less	6,830 – 13,659	13,660 – 20,489	20,490 – 27,319	Above 27,320
4 people	8,249 or less	8,250 – 16,499	16,500 – 24,749	24,750 – 32,999	Above 33,000
5 people	9,669 or less	9,670 – 19,339	19,340 – 29,009	29,010 – 38,679	Above 38,680
6 people	11,089 or less	11,090 – 22,179	22,180 – 33,269	33,270 – 44,359	Above 44,360
7 people	12,509 or less	12,510 – 25,019	25,020 – 37,529	37,530 – 50,039	Above 50,040
8 people	13,929 or less	13,930 – 27,859	27,860 – 41,789	41,790 – 55,719	Above 55,720
Each Addl Person Adds:	1,419 or less	1,420 – 2,839	2,840 – 4,259	4,260 – 5,679	Above 5,680

**Numbers above are calculated on income poverty standards. Example, to meet the 75% exemption for 1 person: 15,960 X 25% = 3,990*

To be eligible for a partial exemption based on the asset level or other standards, the following requirements will be met. The applicant is required to list all assets that include the following:

- A second home, land, vehicles
- Recreational vehicles such as campers, motorhomes, boats and ATV's
- Buildings other than the residence
- Jewelry, antiques, artworks
- Equipment, other personal property of value
- Bank accounts (over a specified amount), stocks
- Money received from the sale of property, such as, stocks, bonds, a house or car (unless a person is in the specific business of selling such property)
- Withdrawals of bank deposits and borrowed money
- Gifts, loans, lump-sum inheritances, and one-time insurance payments
- Food or housing received in lieu of wages and the value of food and fuel produced and consumed on farms
- Federal non-cash benefits programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps and school lunches


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all policies, procedures, resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of any such conflict.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

Resolution declared adopted on May 19, 2026.



Mark Seamon, Township Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Township Clerk of the Township of Spaulding, Saginaw County, Michigan, certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the Township Board at a regular meeting of the Township Board held on the 19th day of May 2026. I further certify that public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Michigan Act 267 of 1976, as amended, and that the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by the Act.



Mark Seamon, Township Clerk

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		
<p>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.</p>		
<p><input type="checkbox"/> 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.</p>		
PART 12: CERTIFICATION		
<p>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.</p>		
Printed Name	Signature	Date

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

Notice: Any willful misstatements or misrepresentations made on this form may constitute perjury, which, under the law, is a felony punishable by fine or imprisonment.

Notice: Per MCL 211.7u(2b), a copy of all household members federal income tax returns, state income tax returns (MI-1040) and Homestead Property Tax Credit claims (MI-1040CR 1, 2, 3 or 4) must be attached as proof of income. Documentation for all income sources including, but not limited to, credits, claims, Social Security income, child support, alimony income, and all other income sources must be provided at time of application.

Petitioners: Do not sign this application until witnessed by the Supervisor, Assessor, Board of Review or Notary Public. (Must be signed by either the Supervisor, Assessor, Board of Review Member or Notary Public)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF _____

I, the undersigned Petitioner, hereby declare that the foregoing information is complete and true and that neither I, nor any household member residing within the principal residency, have money, income or property other than mentioned herein.

Petitioner Signature Date

Subscribed and sworn this _____ day of _____, _____

Assessor Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

Board Member Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

Notary Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

My Commission Expires: _____

This application shall be filed after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of March, July or December Board of Review to the address below.

Board of Review
c/o David Cook, Assessor
Spaulding Township
5025 East Rd.
Saginaw, MI 48601

DECISIONS OF THE MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MAY BE APPEALED IN WRITING TO THE MICHIGAN TAX TRIBUNAL BY JULY 31 OF THE CURRENT YEAR. JULY OR DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW DENIALS MAY BE APPEALED TO MICHIGAN TAX TRIBUNAL WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DENIAL. A COPY OF THE BOARD OF REVIEW DECISION MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THE FILING.

Michigan Tax Tribunal
PO Box 30232
Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: 517-373-3003
Fax: 517-373-1633
E-mail: taxtrib@michigan.gov

Poverty Exemption Affidavit

This form is issued under authority of Public Act 206 of 1993; MCL 211.7u.

INSTRUCTIONS: When completed, this document must accompany a taxpayer's Application for Poverty Exemption filed with the supervisor or the board of review of the local unit where the property is located. MCL 211.7u provides for a whole or partial property tax exemption on the principal residence of an owner of the property by reason of poverty and the inability to contribute toward the public charges. MCL 211.7u(2)(b) requires proof of eligibility for the exemption be provided to the board of review by supplying copies of federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including property tax credit returns, or by filing an affidavit for all persons residing in the residence who were not required to file federal or state income tax returns for the current or preceding tax year.

I, _____, swear and affirm by my signature below that I reside in the principal residence that is the subject of this Application for Poverty Exemption and that for the current tax year and the preceding tax year, I was not required to file a federal or state income tax return.

Address of Principal Residence: _____

Signature of Person Making Affidavit

Date