

**2024**  
**POVERTY GUIDELINES AND ASSET TEST RESOLUTION**  
**Resolution- 2024-02-12E**

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is within the purview of the township board; and-

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**WHEREAS**, the principle residence 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 Bainbridge Township, Berrien 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 with current 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. File a claim reporting that the combined assets of all persons do not exceed the current guidelines. Assets include but are not limited to, real estate other than the principal residence, personal property, motor vehicles, recreational vehicles and equipment, certificates of deposit, savings accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, life insurance, retirement funds, etc.
4. Produce a valid drivers' 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 requested.

6. Meet the federal poverty income standards as defined and determined annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Service.

2024 Guidelines: per STC Bulletin #18 of 2023

1	\$14,580
2	\$19,720
3	\$24,860
4	\$30,000
5	\$35,140
6	\$40,280
7	\$45,420
8	\$50,560

For each additional person \$5,140

7. The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1, but before the closing of the last day of board of review.
8. Any additional eligibility requirements as determined by the township board:
  - a. One Automobile
  - b. The value of all additional assets shall not exceed 3 times the annual Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.
  - c. The Board of Review may request additional information and verification of assets if they determine it to be necessary and may reject any application if assets are not properly identified.

**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.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Patty Hiler-Molter and supported by Don Baiers Board Member

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
<b>Don Baiers</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Nancy Weber</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>John Yetzke</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Patricia Hiler-Molter</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Andrew Gardiner</b>	<b>X</b>		

**The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.**

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**Patty Hiler-Molter, Township Clerk**

I, Patty Hiler-Molter, the duly elected and acting Clerk of Bainbridge Township, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the township board of said township at the regular meeting of said board held on **February 12, 2024** at which meeting a quorum was present by a roll call vote of said members as hereinbefore set forth; that said resolution was ordered to take immediate effect.

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**Patty Hiler-Molter, Township Clerk**