

POVERTY GUIDELINES

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF GAINES TOWNSHIP, GENESEE 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, this may include vacant contiguous property as long as it is considered their principal residence.
- 2) File application (form 5737 & form 5739) with the 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) Applications may be reviewed by the BOR and Assessor without applicant being present. However, the BOR **may request** that any or all applicants be physically present to respond to any questions the Board or Assessor may have. This means that an applicant could be called to appear on short notice.
- 8) Gaines Township offers 100% exemption of property taxes for hardship.

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

Applicants shall not be eligible for consideration if total household assets exceed twenty-five thousand dollars **(\$25,000)** excluding the primary residence.

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."

FEDERAL POVERTY INCOME STANDARDS FOR 2024 ASSESSMENTS The following are the federal poverty income standards as of 12-31-23 for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2024 assessments.

Size of Family Unit Poverty Guidelines

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, add \$ 5,140

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.