

**Filing Deadline for 2021:**  
**March BOR – March 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**July BOR – July 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**December BOR – December 9<sup>th</sup>**

PETITION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

PARCEL NUMBER: 22-23- \_\_\_\_\_

ASSESSED VALUE \_\_\_\_\_ TAXABLE VALUE \_\_\_\_\_

## **City of Farmington Hills Application for Property Tax Relief**

Pursuant to Section 211.7u  
Michigan Compiled Laws

This application must be filled out carefully and completely. **A copy of 2020 Federal and State Income Tax Returns, with the Michigan Property Homestead Form (1040-CR), must be submitted with this application for each person residing in or contributing to the homestead.** All information supplied will be kept confidential. All applications **MUST** be complete and contain accurate information or they will not be considered.

**Applications submitted without completed forms or income tax returns will NOT be considered.**

**This is an annual exemption and must be reapplied for each year.**

### **Exemption Qualifiers** ( must meet all to be considered)

1. **Must** own and occupy the property as a principal residence.
2. **Must** conform to the income guidelines which are attached to the booklet.
3. **Must** attach income tax information, both federal and state including a Michigan 1040-CR Homestead Property Tax Form (or income verification if they do not file), **all W-2's, all 1099's and all bank statements from the prior year (2020) as well as the current month.**
4. **Must** pass the asset test as established and explained in the booklet.

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CONFIDENTIAL – RESTRICTED ACCESS

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## 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

<b>PART 4: EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION — List your current employment information.</b>					
Name of Employer					
Address of Employer			City	State    ZIP Code	
Contact Person		Employer Telephone Number			
<b>PART 5: INCOME SOURCES</b>					
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.					
<b>Source of Income</b>				<b>Monthly or Annual Income</b> (indicate which)	
<b>PART 6: CHECKING, SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT INFORMATION</b>					
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.					
<b>Name of Financial Institution or Investments</b>	<b>Amount on Deposit</b>	<b>Current Interest Rate</b>	<b>Name on Account</b>	<b>Value of Investment</b>	
<b>PART 7: LIFE INSURANCE — List all policies held by all household members.</b>					
<b>Name of Insured</b>	<b>Amount of Policy</b>	<b>Monthly Payments</b>	<b>Policy Paid in Full</b>	<b>Name of Beneficiary</b>	<b>Relationship to Insured</b>
<b>PART 8: MOTOR VEHICLE INFORMATION</b>					
All motor vehicles (including motorcycles, motor homes, camper trailers, etc.) held or owned by any person residing within the household must be listed.					
<b>Make</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Monthly Payment</b>	<b>Balance Owed</b>		

**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

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.

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.

#### PART 12: CERTIFICATION

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.

Printed Name	Signature	Date
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**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](mailto:taxtrib@michigan.gov)

## CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

### GUIDELINES FOR POVERTY EXEMPTION REVIEW

#### I. General Overview

The Board of Review of the City of Farmington Hills recognizes the need to have available a procedure by which residents in need of assistance under MCL 211.7u can make an application for property tax relief. The Board further recognizes that pursuant to statute and case law, they must adopt procedures and guidelines, approved by City Council, to be used as standards when considering appeals made based on financial hardship. The Board of Review understands that these guidelines must be adhered to when reviewing poverty appeals. The Board of Review may reject any form submitted that is inaccurate or not fully completed by the time of the Board's consideration. All information in the form is subject to verification by the Board of Review or Assessors Office.

#### II. Basic Filing Requirements

In order to be considered for exemption under MCL 211.7u each applicant must:

- A. Own and occupy the property as a principal residence, as defined by law, for which the request is being made. This may include vacant, contiguous property as long as it is considered part of the principal residence.
- B. Complete and submit an Application for Tax Exemption on a form designated and supplied by the City of Farmington Hills Assessors Office.
- C. Submit income verification as required. This must include current Federal and State Income Tax Returns, State Homestead Property Tax Credit Forms, bank statements, or any additional information requested by the Board of Review.

#### III. Processing Applications

Once an Application for Tax Exemption is completed and returned to the Assessor's Office, it will be reviewed by the Assessing staff. The Assessing staff will complete and attach a Hardship Worksheet to each appeal. The worksheet will summarize the application and provide the Board of Review with specific information, income of the applicant, an estimated tax amount for the property, a summary of the estimated Homestead Property Tax Credit for the property and the estimated net property tax liability to the homeowner.

After the above referenced information is compiled, the entire packet will be submitted to the Board of Review to be considered for tax relief in a work session. The Board of Review, in making their decision, may contact the applicant for any additional information they deem necessary. The Board of Review shall also reject any application where the information contained in it appears fraudulent, misleading or incomplete.

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

GUIDELINES FOR POVERTY TAX EXEMPTION

IV. **Income Guidelines**

The income guidelines used by the Board of Review have been established in accordance with P.A. 390 of 1994 and P.A. 253 of 2020. In determining qualifications for tax exemption, the Board of Review shall consider every variable on the application, including total household income, the nature and duration of the income stream, the state equalized value of the subject property, the quality and accuracy of the information submitted and any other such evidence as it feels appropriate in making their decision. In general however these guidelines shall be used by the Board of Review in making its decisions. The income amounts below relate directly to the Federal Poverty Guidelines and are adjusted accordingly each year.

<u>Persons</u> <u>in Household</u>	<u>Household</u> <u>Income</u>	<u>Board Action</u>
1	\$ 0 - \$ 15,690	100% reduction in Taxable Value
	\$ 15,690 - \$ 23,330	50% reduction in Taxable Value
	\$ 23,330 - \$ 32,880	25% reduction in Taxable Value
	Over \$ 32,880	No hardship relief will be granted

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2	\$ 0 - \$ 21,210	100% reduction in Taxable Value
	\$ 21,210 - \$ 28,850	50% reduction in Taxable Value
	\$ 28,850 - \$ 38,400	25% reduction in Taxable Value
	Over \$ 38,400	No hardship relief will be granted

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For each additional person over 2 in the household, add \$ 5,520 to income levels to determine income qualifications.

## CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

### GUIDELINES FOR POVERTY TAX EXEMPTION

#### V. Asset Guidelines

As required by P.A. 390 of 1994 and P.A. 253 of 2020, all guidelines for poverty exemptions as established by the governing body of the local assessing unit SHALL also include an asset level test. The following assets shall be considered when applying an asset test to determine qualification for tax exemption:

- i. The value of all “liquid assets” shall not exceed ten (10) times the estimated annual property tax on the homestead property. Examples of “liquid assets” may include, but is not limited to, the cash value of life insurance policies, mutual funds, bonds or stocks as well as money market accounts, savings accounts, or checking accounts.
- ii. The value of all assets of the applicant shall not exceed five (5) times the annual household income of the applicant or those contributing to the expenses of the household. Totals assets may include, but is not limited to, cars, boats, real estate that is not the homestead (including rental properties and vacant properties), and all liquid assets.

All asset information, as requested in the Application for Property Tax Exemption must be completed in total. 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.

#### VI. Summary

In conclusion, the Board of Review has been given exclusive statutory jurisdiction over the granting of property tax relief due to poverty. The Board of Review for the City of Farmington Hills takes this task seriously and attempts to provide relief to all deserving residents within the city. The Board of Review may deny any appeal, regardless of income, if the financial hardship appears to be self-created by the actions of the person or persons making the application. The Board of Review reserves the right to modify these guidelines as necessary.