

County of Chippewa

319 Court Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

MARJORIE HANK, Treasurer

Member of Treasurer's Association

OFFICE (906) 635-6308

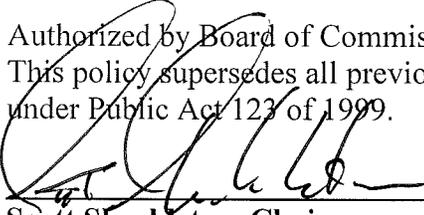
FAX (906) 635-7617

COUNTY OF CHIPPEWA FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

Policy Subject: **Financial Hardship Extension of Foreclosure**

Authorized by Board of Commissioners Policy No: 412 Date: January 1, 2009

This policy supersedes all previous policies regarding Financial Hardship Extension of Foreclosure under Public Act 123 of 1999.



Scott Shackleton, Chairman

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The objective of Chippewa County and the Chippewa County Treasurer and/or Designee is to assist delinquent taxpayers to fulfill their real property tax obligation in order to avoid any foreclosure on any property the owner wishes to maintain. In order to insure that all property owners in Chippewa County are treated equitable, information concerning the availability of hardship extension will be provided to all taxpayers facing foreclosure prior to the Show Cause and Circuit Court Foreclosure Hearings.

PROCEDURE

1. The Treasurer will assist taxpayers throughout the year, applications will be available at the Treasurer's office.
2. The applicant must establish that the property is a homestead or qualified agricultural property (pursuant to MCL 211.7dd). This may be accomplished by an affidavit that they have been granted a homestead exemption that is currently in effect. Deeds or other documentation showing title and residency such as a valid driver's license, utility bills, voter's registration, etc. will also be accepted for review. Local Government officials will

be notified of residents submitting applications from their unit and asked to identify potential local sources of assistance for these individuals.

3. Applications may be submitted throughout the year, but no later than two weeks prior to the Show Cause Hearing date for Foreclosure. The date for the hearing may be obtained by contacting the Treasurer's office. The Treasurer may request an appointment be made to insure the orderly conduct of business. Non-appointments will be scheduled as time permits.
4. Applicant must submit the following with the application or have available at the Show Cause Hearing or other scheduled meeting.
 - A. State and Federal tax returns for the past two years
 - B. Verification of income, such as:
 1. Social Security statement
 2. Land Contracts, Leases, etc.
 3. State Assistance statements
 4. Pay stubs from the previous two months
 - C. Financial Statement of Condition (Balance Sheet-part of application form)
 - D. Documentation of application to local unit of government for their exemption and their determination.
 - E. Provide details of all attempts for assistance or borrowing and the result of this effort.
5. The income guideline, which will be used by the Treasurer, is the most recent Poverty Guidelines as issued by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Income **shall not exceed 150% of Federal Poverty Guidelines**.
6. Applicants will have the opportunity to disclose other conditions that may affect their ability to pay taxes. These may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - A. Existence of physical and/or mental disabilities
 - B. Health issues
 - C. Outstanding financial obligations due to conditions/factors outside the individual's control
 - D. Prolonged unemployment
 - E. Recent loss of source of income due to death, disability, etc.
7. The Treasurer shall determine if the applicant has exhausted all potential sources of viable assistance. Applicants will be provided with information concerning:
 - A. Federal, state and local governmental agencies
 - B. Non-profit, charitable organizations
 - C. Community based and service groups
 - D. Information on types of loans available and local financial/lending institutions which have indicated a willingness to assist hardship applicants
8. The granting of a Hardship Extension only extends the time to pay the delinquent tax due (before foreclosure). Interest a 1 ½ % per month and any additional expenses continue to accrue on the parcel, increasing the tax liability. Ultimately, the Treasurer and/or Designee

must determine if relief from foreclosure will enable the taxpayer(s) to pay the delinquent tax within twelve (12) months of the decision. The Treasurer and/or Designee may also require payment of two years of delinquent taxes in order to prevent continuous applications for hardship.

9. Determination of a Hardship Extension will be at the sole and absolute judgment of the Treasurer and/or Designee.
10. Under MCL 211.78k, any review under this policy will go to Circuit Court at the Foreclosure Hearing.

Attachments to this policy:

1. U.S. Dept of Health and Human services (HHS) Poverty Guidelines for the most recent year
2. Application form (two pages)

2010 POVERTY GUIDELINES*

ALL STATES (EXCEPT ALASKA AND HAWAII) AND D.C.

ANNUAL GUIDELINES

FAMILY SIZE	PERCENT OF POVERTY GUIDELINE								
	100%	120%	133%	135%	150%	175%	185%	200%	250%
1	10,830.00	12,996.00	14,403.90	14,620.50	16,245.00	18,952.50	20,035.50	21,660.00	27,075.00
2	14,570.00	17,484.00	19,378.10	19,669.50	21,855.00	25,497.50	26,954.50	29,140.00	36,425.00
3	18,310.00	21,972.00	24,352.30	24,718.50	27,465.00	32,042.50	33,873.50	36,620.00	45,775.00
4	22,050.00	26,460.00	29,326.50	29,767.50	33,075.00	38,587.50	40,792.50	44,100.00	55,125.00
5	25,790.00	30,948.00	34,300.70	34,816.50	38,685.00	45,132.50	47,711.50	51,580.00	64,475.00
6	29,530.00	35,436.00	39,274.90	39,865.50	44,295.00	51,677.50	54,630.50	59,060.00	73,825.00
7	33,270.00	39,924.00	44,249.10	44,914.50	49,905.00	58,222.50	61,549.50	66,540.00	83,175.00
8	37,010.00	44,412.00	49,223.30	49,963.50	55,515.00	64,767.50	68,468.50	74,020.00	92,525.00

For family units of more than 8 members, add \$3,740 for each additional member.

MONTHLY GUIDELINES

FAMILY SIZE	PERCENT OF POVERTY GUIDELINE								
	100%	120%	133%	135%	150%	175%	185%	200%	250%
1	902.50	1,083.00	1,200.33	1,218.38	1,353.75	1,579.38	1,669.63	1,805.00	2,256.25
2	1,214.17	1,457.00	1,614.84	1,639.13	1,821.25	2,124.79	2,246.21	2,428.33	3,035.42
3	1,525.83	1,831.00	2,029.36	2,059.88	2,288.75	2,670.21	2,822.79	3,051.67	3,814.58
4	1,837.50	2,205.00	2,443.88	2,480.63	2,756.25	3,215.63	3,399.38	3,675.00	4,593.75
5	2,149.17	2,579.00	2,858.39	2,901.38	3,223.75	3,761.04	3,975.96	4,298.33	5,372.92
6	2,460.83	2,953.00	3,272.91	3,322.13	3,691.25	4,306.46	4,552.54	4,921.67	6,152.08
7	2,772.50	3,327.00	3,687.43	3,742.88	4,158.75	4,851.88	5,129.13	5,545.00	6,931.25
8	3,084.17	3,701.00	4,101.94	4,163.63	4,626.25	5,397.29	5,705.71	6,168.33	7,710.42

Produced by: CMSO/DEHPG/DEEO

* In accordance with section 1012 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2010, the poverty guidelines published on January 23, 2009 will remain in effect until updated poverty guidelines are published in March 2010.

**COUNTY OF CHIPPEWA
APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL HARDSHIP DEFERRAL**

Parcel ID Number(s): _____

Taxpayer Name _____

Taxpayer Name _____

Property Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Ages of dependents: _____

Employment Information:

Monthly Income:

Company Name: _____

\$ _____

Address: _____

Other Income (specify): _____

\$ _____

\$ _____

\$ _____

Total Monthly Income:

\$ _____

**Other income may include social security, veteran's benefits, unemployment, retirement, rentals, etc.*

When meeting with the Treasurer and/or Designee the applicant must provide a completed application form (both pages), documentation as listed in Item 4 of the procedures and any other documents necessary to present your case.

For Official Use Only:

Date Received: _____ Date Reviewed: _____

Checklist completed? ___ Yes ___ No Extension Granted? ___ Yes ___ No

Tax Year(s): _____

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

STATEMENT OF CONDITION AS OF TODAY'S DATE

Parcel ID Number(s): _____

Taxpayer Name(s): _____

Assets		Liabilities	
		Monthly Pmt	Total Owed
Cash on Hand	\$	Mortgage	\$
Checking Acct	\$	Credit Cards	\$
Savings	\$	Vehicles	\$
Other Invest	\$	Utilities	\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
Total Assets	\$	Total Liab.	\$
		Net Worth	
		Assets minus (-) Liability	\$ _____

Unique or unusual circumstances which should be considered:

The above statements are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and are made for the purpose of obtaining a Hardship Extension on my property for delinquent real property taxes. I understand I can be prosecuted for fraud if I intentionally make a false or misleading statement or misrepresent, conceal, or withhold information for the purpose of establishing or maintaining my property's eligibility.

Signature

Signature

Date

Date

Return both pages of the application and any supporting documentation to:

Chippewa County Treasurer
319 Court Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-6308