

**RESOURCES****REAL PROPERTY  
HOMESTEAD**

**Description:** A homestead is the primary residence occupied by an A/R and/or members of his/her family in which the A/R has ownership interest. Family members include the A/R's spouse, minor children, certified blind or certified disabled children and other dependent relatives. The homestead includes the home, land and integral parts such as garages and outbuildings. The homestead may be a house, condominium, cooperative apartment or mobile home. Vacation homes, summer homes or cabins are generally not considered homesteads.

**NOTE:** Land adjoining the homestead, which is on a separate deed, is considered contiguous property, and not part of the homestead. See contiguous property.

**Policy:** A homestead is exempt as long as it is the primary residence of an SSI-related A/R or a family member. The homestead remains exempt during a period of temporary absence. When an SSI-related A/R is absent from his/her homestead, the homestead is not a countable resource as long as the A/R indicates an intent to return home (regardless of the individual's actual ability to return home).

**References:**

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| SSL Sect.  | 366<br>366.2(a)(1)<br>366-ee             |
| Dept. Reg. | 360-1.4(f)<br>360-4.7(a)(1)              |
| ADMs       | 10 OHIP ADM-01<br>92 ADM-53<br>91 ADM-30 |
| GISs       | 09 MA/027<br>06 MA/009                   |

**Interpretation:** A homestead, including an income-producing homestead, is an exempt resource for SSI-related A/Rs, as long as it is the primary residence of the A/R or a family member. If the SSI-related A/R or family member no longer resides in the home that home is evaluated to determine if it is a countable resource.