



LIST OF EXEMPTIONS

The following is a list of some of the most common kinds of income and property of a debtor that a court cannot order taken in order to satisfy a judgment. This list contains only the more common exemptions, not a complete list of all potential exemptions. For more information, see 12 V.S.A. § 2740 or contact an attorney.

1. **All Income from any source** is exempt if a debtor has received any benefits in the past 2 months from the Vermont Department for Children and Families (DCF), such as *Reach up, General Assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP or Food Stamps), Fuel Assistance or Childcare Subsidies*; or from the Department of Vermont Health Access, such as *Medicaid, VPharm, or Dr. Dynasaur* (12 V.S.A. § 3170).
2. **All Income and all Property** is exempt if it comes from or is “traceable” to:
 - a. **The Social Security Administration** (42 U.S.C. § 407, 42 USC 1383 and 27 VSA 2740(19)).
 - b. **Veteran’s Benefits** (38 U.S.C. § 5301).
 - c. **Workers’ Compensation Benefits** (21 V.S.A. § 687).
 - d. **Alimony**, support or separate maintenance; (12 V.S.A. § 2740(19D)).
 - e. **Disability or Retirement** pension payments. (12 V.S.A. § 2740(19J)).
 - f. **Other sources** protected under 12 V.S.A. § 2740(19).
3. **All or Part of Wages** may be exempt:
 - a. If weekly wages, before taxes, are less than \$217.50, they are exempt from collection. If weekly wages are more than that, 75% of take home pay is exempt from collection. (12 V.S.A. 3170)
 - b. If the debt is about a credit card or loan, then weekly wages less than \$290 are exempt from collection. If wages are more than that, 85% of take home pay is exempt from collection. (12 V.S.A. 3170)
4. **Insurance or disability** payments are exempt. (8 V.S.A. §§ 3706-3709, 4478;12 V.S.A. § 3020).
5. **Assets**, the following assets are exempt from attachment or seizure:
 - a. **Cash** up to \$700 in cash or bank deposits (12 V.S.A. § 2740 (15)).
 - b. **Deposits** in bank accounts that receive money from Social Security Administration (31 C.F.R. 212).
 - c. **Primary Home** up to a limit of \$125,000 in value (27 V.S.A. § 101).
 - d. **Motor Vehicle(s)** up to \$2,500 in value (12 V.S.A. § 2740(1)).
 - e. **Professional Tools** and books up to \$5,000 (12 V.S.A. § 2740(2)).
 - f. **Overall Exemption:** If you have not already claimed \$7,000 in exemptions in other categories, then you may claim up to that amount, plus an additional \$400 to protect other property you own. (12 V.S.A. § 2740(7)).
6. **Retirement Assets**
 - a. **Pension Benefits** including various federal pension benefits (29 U.S.C. § 1056(d); 45 U.S.C. § 231(m); 5 U.S.C. § 8346).
 - b. **Retirement Accounts** including payments under annuity policies or plans, and individual tax-deductible retirement accounts, Keogh plans, and Roth IRA’s. (12 V.S.A. § 2740 (16)).
7. **All Other Exemptions set forth in Title 12 § 2740.**