

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EXEMPTION STATUTES

**FEDERAL BANKRUPTCY EXEMPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE.**  
 All references are to District of Columbia Code unless otherwise noted.

ASSET	EXEMPTION	LAW PROVISION
<b>HOMESTEAD</b>	NONE, however, property held as tenancy by the entirety may be exempt against debts owed by only one spouse	<i>Estate of Wall</i> , 440 F.2d 215 (D.C. Cir. 1971)
<b>INSURANCE</b>	Disability benefits	35-522
	Fraternal benefit society benefits	35-1211
	Group life insurance policy or proceeds	35-523
	Life insurance proceeds if clause prohibits proceeds from being used to pay beneficiary's creditors	35-525
	Life insurance proceeds or avails	35-521
	Other insurance proceeds to <b>\$200</b> per month, maximum <b>2</b> months, for head of family; else <b>\$60</b> per month	15-503
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	Property of business partnership	41-124
<b>PENSIONS</b> <i>also see wages</i>	Judges	11-1570(d)
	Public School Teachers	31-1217; 31-1238
<b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b>	Beds, bedding, radios, cooking utensils, stoves, furniture, furnishings and sewing machines to <b>\$300</b> total	15-501(a)(2)
	Books to <b>\$400</b>	15-501(a)(8)
	Clothing to <b>\$300</b>	15-501(a)(1), 15-503(b)
	Cooperative association holdings to <b>\$50</b>	29-1128
	Family pictures	15-501(a)(8)
	Food and fuel to <b>3</b> months	15-501(a)(3), (4)
	Residential condominium deposit	45-1869
<b>PUBLIC BENEFITS</b>	Aid to blind, aged, disabled, AFDC, general assistance	3-215.1
	Crime victims' compensation	3-407
	Unemployment compensation	46-119
	Workers' compensation	36-317
<b>TOOLS OF TRADE</b>	Library, furniture, tools of professional or artist to <b>\$300</b>	15-501(a)(6)
	Mechanic's tools; tools of trade or business to <b>\$200</b>	15-501(a)(5), 15-503(b)
	Motor vehicle, cart, wagon or dray, and horse or mule harness to <b>\$500</b>	15-501(a)(7)
	Seal and documents of notary public	1-806
	Stock and materials to <b>\$200</b>	15-501(a)(5)
<b>WAGES</b>	Minimum <b>75%</b> of earned but unpaid wages, pension payments; bankruptcy judge may authorize more for low-income debtors	16-572
	Non-wage (including pension) earnings for <b>60</b> days to <b>\$200</b> per month for head of family; else <b>\$60</b> per month	15-503
<b>WILD CARD</b>	NONE	