

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE UPDATE

State Elderly and Totally Disabled Homeowners Program and additional Exemption Programs

An applicant or spouse must be 65 years of age as of the previous December 31 or totally disabled thru Social Security.

The program is income based; taxpayers are required to submit proof of their prior year income to the Assessor's office to apply. The maximum income limit for a single person is \$40,300 and for a married couple it is \$49,100 for the 2023 applications. A copy of a current income tax return must be presented at the time of application if one is filed with the IRS, along with statements of any nontaxable income such as Social Security payments. If an income tax return is not filed, statements of all income must be presented. These include statements of wages, lottery winnings, taxable pensions, IRA's, interest, dividends, rental income, Social Security SSA1099, Railroad retirement, veteran's payments, etc.

Anyone under age 65 who qualifies due to being totally disabled must provide a current Social Security award letter, benefit statement and/or Form SSA 1099.

This is a two year program; taxpayers currently on the program will be notified by mail when they need to refile for the benefit.

As of the October 2023 Grand List, a local program was enacted to allow an additional \$250 credit to taxpayers who qualify for the **income based** State Homeowners program described above.

Any taxpayer who is eligible for a veterans', blind or totally disabled exemption and falls within the above income limits may apply for additional exemptions until October 1. The same documentation listed above is necessary. An income qualified taxpayer does not need to be a homeowner to apply for these additional exemptions. However, qualified homeowners who are veterans, blind or disabled will complete the additional application when they file for Homeowner benefits.

No appointment is necessary. You may contact the Assessor's Office at 860-623-8878 with any questions.