

# ELDERLY TAX EXEMPTION QUALIFICATIONS & INFORMATION

## INCOME GUIDELINES

### **Limits**

Single: \$47,000  
Married: \$65,000

**Definition** "... in the calendar year preceding April 1<sup>st</sup>... net income from all sources, or if married a combined income from all sources... Net income shall be determined by deducting from all moneys received, from any source including social security or pension payments, the amount of any of the following or a sum thereof:

- (1) Life insurance paid on the death of an insured;
- (2) Expenses and cost incurred in the course of conducting a business enterprise;
- (3) Proceeds from the sale of assets."

## ASSET GUIDELINES

### **Limits**

Single/Married: \$200,000

**Definition** " "Net Assets" means the value of all assets, tangible and intangible, minus the value of any good faith encumbrances." "... excluding the value of the person's actual residence and the land upon which it is located up to the greater of 2 acres or the minimum single family residential lot size specified in the local zoning ordinance... "Residence" shall exclude attached dwelling units and unattached structures used or intended for commercial or other non-residential purposes."

## EXEMPTION AMOUNTS

The exemption amount is subtracted from the assessed valuation to lower your tax liability.

Ages 65 through 74: The exemption is \$175,000

Ages 75 through 79: The exemption is \$225,000

Ages 80 and over: The exemption is \$275,000

## AGE, RESIDENCY & OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- The applicant must be at least age 65 or over as of April 1<sup>st</sup> of the year applying and a resident of New Hampshire for the past 3 consecutive years. Proof of age must be submitted, ie. current drivers license.
- **The property for which the exemption is claimed must be owned by the applicant and be his/her principal place of abode.**
- If the spouse of the applicant owns the real estate, the couple must have been married for at least five years.
- **The applicant must sign the permanent application and the annual tax exemption financial worksheet & affidavit. The worksheet and affidavit are available as a separate document during the filing period.**
- Supporting documentation for income and asset amounts must be presented with the application. A list of documentation required is presented on reverse of this form.
- **If the property is held in a trust or life estate, a copy of the trust and the Statement of Qualification Form (PA-33) must be filed with this application. (Please contact our office for a copy of this form)**
- This application must be filed annually by **April 15<sup>th</sup>**, preceding the setting of the tax rate. Example: If you are applying for an exemption off your 2016 property taxes, which are due no earlier than December 1, 2016, then you would have had until April 15, 2016 to file or renew your exemption.
- **Tax exemptions cannot be claimed in more than one community within New Hampshire nor if receiving similar benefits elsewhere, such as Florida Homestead exemption.**
- Income, Asset & Exemption amounts are subject to change from year to year. Please contact the Assessing Office for updated information.

**The Assessing Office shall grant the exemption provided the taxpayer qualifies in all categories; the Office is satisfied that the applicant has not willfully made any false statements in the application for the purpose of obtaining the exemption, and the applicant co-operated with any Assessing Official's request for further documentation, if it applies.**

***PLEASE CALL THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE WITH ANY QUESTIONS: 603-868-8064***

## **Required Documentation for Income Verification**

1040	Complete Copy of Federal Income Tax Forms if filed including all schedules for past calendar year. <b><i>If you do not file a tax return, proof must be provided by submitting the IRS response to the IRS form 4506-T to the Town of Durham Assessing Department.</i></b>
DP-10	Complete Copy of State of NH Interest & Dividend Tax Form for past calendar year.
SSA-1099	Social Security Benefit Statement for prior year. <i>A copy of your SSA-1099 form can be obtained from the Social Security Administration by calling 1-800-772-1213.</i>
1099-R	Distributions from Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit Sharing Plans, IRA's, Insurance Contracts, etc for prior year.
W-2 / 1099	All Wage statements for the prior year
1099-INT	All Interest Statements for prior year.
1099-DIV	All Dividend Statements for prior year.
	Trust Income
	VA Pension
	Business or Self-Employment Income
	Rental Income
	Unemployment or Worker's Compensation
	Alimony
	Child/Dependent Support/Stipend
	State of NH Health & Human Services Assistance letter documenting Food Stamps, APTD, or other assistance.
	City Welfare
	Fuel Assistance
	<b>ANY OTHER INCOME NOT LISTED ABOVE</b>

## **Required Documentation for Current Asset Verification**

	Checking & Savings Monthly Statements for ALL accounts showing a minimum of 90 days of activity.
	Documentation of Cash Value of ALL investments: Annuities, Mutual Funds, Shares, Stocks, Bonds, IRA's, et al <b><i>(All Statements must be provided in their entirety and provided regardless of the current balance. Do not omit any pages. If you have closed a previously reported account, please provide last statement received.)</i></b>
	Documentation of Cash Value of Whole Life Insurance
	Vehicle registrations
	Documentation of any loans on vehicles or real estate you own (except your primary residence).
	Most recent tax bill on any real estate you own (except your primary residence).
	Trust document if you are a Trustee or the Beneficiary of a Trust
	<b>Evidence/documentation of any other assets not listed above.</b>

***Information submitted shall be considered CONFIDENTIAL and not part of the public records.***

***This office reserves the right to request additional documentation as needed.***

***We recommend that you submit **COPIES** of the required documentation***

**The filing period begins when you have received your year-end income statements in January and ends April 15 prior to the setting of the tax rate.**