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APPLICATION PERIOD OPENS JANUARY 5: PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND THE DISABLED

COLUMBUS, Ohio (December 28, 2015) – If you, a loved one or a friend are a low-income senior citizen or permanently and totally disabled, you may qualify for the Ohio Homestead Exemption. You may be eligible for a property tax reduction on your main residence and up to one acre of land you own.

How will this reduce property taxes? The reduction is equal to the taxes that would otherwise be charged on up to \$25,000 of the market value of an eligible taxpayer's homestead. The exact amount of savings from the exemption will vary from community to community based on local tax rates. **The 2016 application period is from January 5 through June 6, 2016.** Visit the [Ohio Department of Taxation website](#) for more information.

Here is a summary. To qualify for the senior and disabled persons' homestead exemption, a homeowner must:

- Own and occupy the home as their primary place of residence as of January 1 of the year for which they apply; **and**
- Be 65 years of age, or turn 65, by December 31 of the year for which they apply; or
- Be totally and permanently disabled as of January 1 of the year for which they apply, as certified by a licensed physician or psychologist; **or**
- Be the surviving spouse of a person who was receiving the homestead exemption at the time of death and where the surviving spouse was at least 59 years old on the date of death.
- **And** have a total income (for both the applicant and the applicant's spouse) that does not exceed the amount set by the law, which is adjusted annually for inflation. "Total income" is defined as the adjusted gross income for Ohio income tax purposes. The current maximum allowed is \$31,500 for the 2016 application period.

To qualify for the disabled veterans enhanced homestead exemption, a homeowner must:

- Own and occupy the home as their primary place of residence as of January 1 of the year for which they apply; **and**
- Be a veteran of the armed forces of the United States (including the reserve components or the National Guard) who has received a permanent total disability rating, or a 100 percent total disability rating for a service-connected disability or combination of service-connected disabilities.

You can download an application from the [Ohio Department of Taxation](#).

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