

2020 SENIOR ASSESSMENT FREEZE APPLICATION PTAX-340

If your total household income is greater than \$65,000, you do NOT QUALIFY for the Senior Freeze Exemption.
 Complete instructions for this form are available at assessor.wincoil.us

Please complete the form, sign and return it to the Supervisor of Assessments Office .

Name: _____

Parcel Identification Number (PIN): _____

Address: _____

Property Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Daytime Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Marital Status as of 1/1/2020 (check one):

Single, Widow(er) or Divorced Married and living together Married, but not living together

If married: Spouse's name: _____

Spouse's Date of Birth: _____ Spouse's Date of Death: _____

I hereby state that:

- The property known as PIN: _____ was my principal residence on January 1, 2019 and January 1, 2020.
- On January 1, 2019 and January 1, 2020, I either: **a.** was the owner of record for the above described property, or **b.** had a legal or equitable interest in the property or, **c.** had a leasehold interest in the single family property.
- I was liable for paying 2019 property taxes and will be liable for paying 2020 property taxes on the property described.
- I have not applied for a Senior Freeze Exemption on any other property for 2020.

Complete the 2019 Income information for the entire household:

1.	Social Security Benefits (GROSS), SSI Benefits. Include Medicare deductions (household total)	1.
2.	Railroad Retirement Benefits. Include Medicare deductions in this total (household total)	2.
3.	Civil Service benefits (household total)	3.
4.	Annuities, federally taxable pensions, IRA benefits, retirement plan distributions (household total)	4.
5.	Human Services and other governmental cash public assistance benefits (household total)	5.
6.	Wages, salaries, and tips from work (household total)	6.
7.	Interest and dividends received (household total)	7.
8.	Net rental, farm and business income or (loss) (household total)	8.
9.	Net capital gain or (loss) (household total)	9.
10.	Other income or (loss) (household total)	10.
11.	Add lines 1 through 10	11.
12.	Certain subtractions – You may subtract only the reported adjustments to income from U.S. 1040, Schedule 1, Line 22.	Write subtraction amounts on line 12a and 12b. Write Result on line 12 below.
	Subtraction Item	Amount
12a		
12b		
13.	Subtract Line 12 from Line 11 and write the result. This is your total household income for 2019. If this line is greater than \$65,000, STOP. You do not qualify for this exemption.	13.

The CCAO may conduct an audit to verify the taxpayer is eligible to receive this exemption. Under penalties of perjury, I state that, to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this affidavit is true, correct and complete.

X _____ Date

Signature of Applicant

SENIOR CITIZENS MUST SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM BY October 1, 2020 to:

Winnebago County Supervisor of Assessments, 404 Elm St. Rm. 301, Rockford, IL 61101 Phone (815) 319-4460

Form PTAX-340 General Information

What is the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption (SCAFHE)?

The Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption (35 ILCS 200/15-172) allows you, as a qualified senior citizen, to have your home's equalized assessed value (EAV) "frozen" at a base year value and prevent or limit any increase due to inflation. The base year generally is the year before the year you first qualify and apply for the exemption. For example, if you first qualify and apply in 2020, your property's EAV will be "frozen" at the 2019 EAV. The amount of the exemption is the difference between your base year EAV and your current year EAV. Freezing your property's EAV does not mean that your property taxes will not increase, however. Other factors also affect your tax bill. For example, your tax bill could increase if the tax rate, which is based on the amount of revenues taxing districts request, increases. Your EAV and tax bill may also increase if you add improvements to your home. However, if your home's EAV decreases in the future, you will benefit from any reduction.

Who is eligible?

The senior citizens assessment freeze homestead exemption qualifications for the 2020 tax year (for the property taxes you will pay in 2021), are listed below.

- You will be 65 or older during 2020.
- Your **total household** income in 2019 was **\$65,000 or less**.
- On January 1, 2019, **and** January 1, 2020, you
 - used the property as your principal place of residence,
 - owned the property, or had a legal or equitable interest in the property as evidenced by a written instrument, or had a leasehold interest in the property used as a single-family residence, and
 - were liable for the payment of property taxes.

You do **not** qualify for this exemption if your property is assessed under the mobile home privilege tax.

Surviving spouse — Even if you are not 65 or older during 2020, you are eligible for this exemption for 2020 (and possibly 2019) if your spouse died in 2020 and would have met all of the qualifications.

Residents in a health facility — Even if you did not use the property as your principal place of residence on January 1, 2020, you qualify for this exemption if you are a resident of a facility licensed under the Assisted Living and Shared Housing Act, Nursing Home Care Act, ID/DD (intellectually disabled/developmentally disabled) Community Care Act, or Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013 and you meet all other requirements, have received this exemption previously, **and** your property is either unoccupied or is occupied by your spouse.

Residents of cooperatives — If you are a resident of a cooperative apartment building or cooperative life-care facility, you qualify for this exemption if you are liable for the payment of the property taxes on your residence and meet the other eligibility requirements.

What is a household?

A household includes you, your spouse, and all other persons who used your residence as a principal dwelling place on January 1, 2020.

What is included in household income?

Household income includes your income, your spouse's income, and the income of **all** individuals living in the household. Examples of income that must be included in your household income are listed below. (For specific questions, see Step-by-Step Instructions)

- alimony or maintenance received
- annuities and other pensions
- Black Lung benefits
- business income
- capital gains

- cash assistance from the Illinois Department of Human Services and other governmental cash public assistance
- cash winnings from such sources as raffles and lotteries
- Civil Service benefits
- damages awarded in a lawsuit for nonphysical injury or sickness (for example, age discrimination or injury to reputation)
- dividends
- farm income
- Illinois Income Tax refund (only if you received Form 1099-G)
- interest
- interest received on life insurance policies
- long term care insurance (federally taxable portion only)
- lump sum Social Security payments
- miscellaneous income, such as from rummage sales, recycling aluminum, or baby sitting
- military retirement pay based on age or length of service
- monthly insurance benefits
- pension and IRA benefits (federally taxable portion only)
- Railroad Retirement benefits (including Medicare deductions)
- rental income
- Social Security income (including Medicare deductions)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits
- all unemployment compensation
- wages, salaries, and tips from work
- Workers' Compensation Act income
- Workers' Occupational Diseases Act income

What is not included in household income?

Some examples of income that are not included in household income are listed below. (For specific income questions, see Step-by-Step Instructions.)

- cash gifts
- child support payments
- COBRA subsidy payments
- damages awarded in a lawsuit for a physical personal injury or sickness
- Energy Assistance payments
- federal income tax refunds
- IRA's "rolled over" into other retirement accounts, unless "rolled over" into a Roth IRA
- lump sums from inheritances
- lump sums from insurance policies
- money borrowed against a life insurance policy or from any financial institution
- reverse mortgage payments
- spousal impoverishment payments
- stipends from Foster Parent and Foster Grandparent programs
- Veterans' benefits

What if I have a net operating loss or capital loss carryover from a previous year?

You cannot include any carryover of net operating loss or capital loss from a previous year. You can include only a net operating loss or capital loss that occurred in 2019.

Will my information remain confidential?

All information received from your application is confidential and may be used only for official purposes.

When must I file?

File Form PTAX-340 with the Supervisor of Assessments office by **October 1, 2020**. You must file Form PTAX-340 **every year** and meet the qualifications for that year to continue to receive the exemption.

Note: The CCAO may require additional documentation (*i.e.*, birth certificates, tax returns) to verify the information in this application.

What if I need additional assistance?

If you have questions about this form, please contact the supervisor of assessments office at the address and phone number printed at the bottom of Page 1.