

## **Are there programs available for low-income and/or senior citizens to assist with real estate taxes?**

**1. Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program** available from the Commonwealth of PA, for eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. To apply, you must request an application or call 1-888-222-9190.

### **Online Property Tax/Rent Rebate Form Ordering**

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The program expansion increased the income limit from \$15,000 to \$35,000 (which excludes half of Social Security income) for homeowners and raises the maximum rebate for both homeowners and renters from \$500 to \$650. The income limit for renters is \$15,000.

[http://www.revenue.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/property\\_tax\\_rent\\_rebate/14711](http://www.revenue.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/property_tax_rent_rebate/14711)

**The deadline to apply for a rebate on property taxes or rent paid in 2012 is June 30, 2013.**

**If you received or qualified for a Property Tax/Rent Rebate within the past year, you should have received an application in the mail.**

**If you did not receive a rebate this past year on property taxes or rent paid in 2012 but think you may qualify to receive a rebate in 2013, you may [download the form](#) or request an [application be mailed](#).**

[Where's My Rebate?](#) Check the status of your filed Property Tax/Rent Rebate Claim. Tax-related questions should be made through our [Online Customer Service Center](#).

The City of Philadelphia has two assistance programs for current year real estate taxes. Visit Revenue or call (215) 686-6442 for more information.

### **2. Low-Income Senior Citizen Tax Freeze-**

Eligible low-income senior citizens, who apply by October, can keep their real estate taxes in the next year and all future years from increasing, whether due to changes in assessments or tax rates. There is no need to reapply for the program as long as the financial situation and ownership status of the property does not change. The current application has old dates, but will be accepted; Revenue is in the process of updating forms. You can access the [Application for Senior Citizen/Low-income Special Real Estate Tax Provisions here](#).

### **3. Low-Income and Low-Income Senior Citizen Installment Plans-**

Eligible low-income persons and low-income senior citizens who apply by March of the current tax year can have their current year real estate tax payments split out over eight (8) monthly payments. Future years' real estate taxes will then be split over the full year into 12 monthly payments. There is no need to reapply for the program as long as the financial situation and ownership status of the property does not change.

For delinquent real estate taxes, in addition to a standard payment agreement of 25% down with the balance paid out to up to 24 months, the City's Department of Revenue offers a Hardship Payment Agreement, which is payment plan for those who verify that they are low-income. Complete the Low-Income and Extended Term Agreement Application to apply.

The above information was taken from: <http://www.phila.gov/OPA/Pages/FAQ.aspx>