

# TAX RELIEF AVAILABLE TO CHELSEA RESIDENTS

## Property Tax Relief for Residents

The three types of relief available for the residents of Chelsea are Deferrals, Exemptions, and Work Off Programs.

### Property Tax Deferral

The City has Clause 41A Tax Deferral program for owners 65 years and older. The requirements and application process are in depth, so please contact the Assessor's Office for more information.

Under Clause 41A, seniors may also be able to delay payment of their property taxes. A property tax deferral does not discharge the tax obligation like an exemption. Instead, it defers payment until the senior sells the property or passes away. A deferral allows seniors to use resources that would go to pay taxes to defray living expenses instead. Taxpayers who qualify for personal exemptions under other clauses in M.G.L. c. 59, § 5 (for example, for seniors, disabled veterans, blind persons or surviving spouses) may defer all or part of the balance of their reduced taxes.

### Residential Exemption

The City of Chelsea offers the Residential Exemption for all owner occupied Class One residential properties in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59 Section 5C.

To qualify, the homeowner must own and occupy their property as their principal residence as of January 1 of the prior calendar year. Homeowners must fill out the application and provide proof of residency. The applications are reviewed by the Board of Assessors, who will determine if the exemption is granted.

The Residential Exemption applications are typically posted on the Assessor's web page in June of each year. The application and proof of residency must be returned to the Assessor's office for the Board of Assessors approval. Homeowners DO NOT automatically receive the exemption; they must apply.

### Statutory Exemptions

Statutory exemptions are for Veterans, Seniors, Blind, and Surviving Spouses of Military, Police, and Firefighters.

Application for Statutory Exemptions must be filed annually. Applications are available in the month of August and are posted on our website and mailed directly to prior recipients.

## Senior Tax Work Off Program

To qualify you must meet age and residency guidelines. As of January 2020, there are no longer any income requirements.

For specific information, call the Human Resources Department at 617-466-4172.

Applications may be obtained at the Senior Center, 10 Riley Way, Chelsea, MA 02150 or Chelsea City Hall, Human Resources Department, Room 301, Chelsea, MA 02150; or downloaded from City of Chelsea website.

## Veterans Tax Work Off Program

To qualify you must meet veteran status and income requirements as well as residency guidelines. For specific information call Veteran Services at 617-466-4250. Applications may be obtained at the Veteran Services office, City Hall, Room 100, Human Resources office, Room 301 or download from City of Chelsea Web site [www.chelseama.gov](http://www.chelseama.gov).

## Circuit Breaker Tax Credit

Certain seniors who own or rent residential property in Massachusetts, as their principal residence, are eligible for a refundable tax credit. See your tax preparer or to find out if you qualify and how to apply.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-senior-circuit-breaker-tax-credit>

Residents can only receive one Statutory Exemption. However, they can also receive the Residential Exemption and participate in a work off program. Taxpayers will have to pay a 10% minimum property tax regardless of the total value of exemptions.

<b>Residents</b>				
<b>Clause</b>	<b>Basic Qualification</b>	<b>Maximum Income</b>	<b>Maximum Assets</b>	<b>Tax Exempt Amount</b>
ResX	Own and Occupy	None	None	\$2,885
<b>Seniors</b>				
<b>Clause</b>	<b>Basic Qualification</b>	<b>Maximum Income</b>	<b>Maximum Assets</b>	<b>Tax Exempt Amount</b>
17	Age 70+ Single	None	\$48,768	\$214 - \$428
17	Age 70+ Married	None	\$67,058	\$214 - \$428
41	Age 65+ Single	\$24,385	\$48,768	\$1000 - \$2000
41	Age 65 & Married	\$36,577	\$67,058	\$1000 - \$2000
Sr Work Off	Over 60	None	None	Up to \$1,500
<b>Veterans</b>				
<b>Clause</b>	<b>Basic Qualification</b>	<b>Maximum Income</b>	<b>Maximum Assets</b>	<b>Tax Exempt Amount</b>
22	Veteran 10-90%	None	None	\$400 - \$800
24 (22E)	Veteran 100%	None	None	\$1000 - \$2000
22 D	Service Related Death	None	None	100% Exempt
25 (22B)	Blind Veteran	None	None	\$1,250
Vet Work Off	Veteran	None	None	Up to \$1,500
<b>Others</b>				
<b>Clause</b>	<b>Basic Qualification</b>	<b>Maximum Income</b>	<b>Maximum Assets</b>	<b>Tax Exempt Amount</b>
37	Legally Blind	None	None	\$500
42	Killed in Line of Duty	None	None	100% Exempt