

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PENNSYLVANIA PROPERTY TAX / RENT REBATE PROGRAM

Q: What is this program and who is eligible?

A: This Pennsylvania Lottery-funded rebate program benefits those age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. Rebate amounts vary from \$250 - \$650 or more depending on the filer's status. To be eligible, the annual income limit for homeowners cannot exceed \$35,000 or \$15,000 for renters. Only half of Social Security income is included in this calculation.

Q: Is there a deadline to apply?

A: Yes, the deadline to apply for a rebate on property taxes or rent paid in 2012 is June 30, 2013.

Q: Where can I get an application?

A: Applications can be downloaded at www.revenue.state.pa.us, requested by email: ra-forms@pa.gov, or by calling 1-800-362-2050. Forms are also available at your local state legislator's office (www.legis.state.pa.us), or the Lancaster County Office of Aging at 150 N. Queen Street, (717) 299-7979 or www.co.lancaster.pa.us/lanco_aging.

Q: Where can I get help filling out the application?

A: You may download instructions at www.revenue.state.pa.us or call 1-888-222-9190. Assistance is also available at most state legislators' offices, or by calling the Lancaster County Office of Aging at 717-299-7979.

Q: How long will it take to get my rebate after I've submitted my application?

A: The Revenue Department starts mailing 2012 rebate checks on July 1, 2013. To check on the status of your rebate claim, call toll-free: 1-888-222-9190.

Q: Are there any other programs available to help with my property taxes?

A: Some school districts may offer additional rebates or related programs. Contact your local school district office to find out more.

Property Tax/Rent Rebate Available

Many older adults live on fixed incomes, but their property taxes or rent still keep going up. The Pennsylvania Department of Revenue's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program can help reduce these expenses.

Those ages 65 or older, widows/widowers age 50 or older, or disabled individuals age 18 or older may qualify for a property tax rebate if they earn up to \$35,000 a year (excluding half of their Social Security income). Renters can receive a rebate if they earn up to \$15,000, excluding half of their Social Security income.

Rebate forms were mailed in January and February to those who received rebates last year. Forms have been available for others since February. You have until June 30 to apply. Checks will be issued beginning July 1. If you need help filling out the form, you can call the Revenue Department at 1-888-222-9190 or go to www.revenue.state.pa.us. Application forms can also be downloaded at that web site. You can also call the Office of Aging at 717-299-7979 to make an appointment for help completing the application.