

TAX RELIEF OPTIONS

For the following programs, applications are available at the Selectmen's Office in Grantham Town Hall, 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH:

Abatements: Application deadline: March 1 after final tax bill of the year. Per RSA 76:16, property owners who believe there is an error in their property assessment, or their assessment is disproportionate, may apply to the Board of Selectmen for an abatement. Applications are also on line at: <https://www.nh.gov/btla/forms/documents/abatement.pdf>.

Exemption for the Blind (RSA 72:37): Application deadline: April 15. Every inhabitant who is legally blind as determined by the blind services program, bureau of vocational rehabilitation, department of education shall be exempt each year on the assessed value, for property tax purposes, of his or her residential real estate to the value of \$15,000, and a city or town may exempt any amount it may determine is appropriate to address significant increases in property values in accordance with the procedures in RSA 72:27-a. The term "residential real estate" as used in this section shall mean the same as defined in RSA 72:29. All applications made under this section shall be subject to the provisions of RSA 72:33 and RSA 72:34.

Elderly Exemption (RSA 72:39-a): Application deadline: April 15. Residents 65 years of age and up who meet income and asset limits may apply to the Board of Selectmen for an exemption of the assessment of their property.

This Exemption reduces the taxable value of the real estate for qualified taxpayers as follows:

For a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, a reduction of \$44,000 from the assessed value;
For a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, a reduction of \$66,000 from the assessed value; and
For a person 80 years of age or older, a reduction of \$82,500 from the assessed value.

To qualify, the applicant must be 65 years of age by April 1 and have been a New Hampshire resident for at least the last 3 years. In addition, your real estate must be your permanent place of residence and if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, you must have been married for at least 5 years.

Income and Asset limits:

Income: For a single person, your net income may not exceed \$40,000. If married, a combined net income may not be more than \$80,000.

Assets: Excluding your home, if you are single, your assets may not exceed \$100,000. If married, your combined assets may not exceed \$200,000. Please note that assets include everything that is tangible and intangible.

Low & Moderate Income Homeowners' Property Tax Relief: You may be eligible for this program if you are: Single with Adjusted Gross Income equal to or less than \$20,000; Married or filing Head of a NH Household with Adjusted Gross Income equal to or less than \$40,000; and own a home subject to the State Education Property Tax; and resided in that home on April 1. The Town has no authority in regard to this program but you can contact the Selectmen's Office for an application which the State has typically made available sometime in April. Applications must be filed to the State of New Hampshire between May 1 and June 30.

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Veterans Tax Credit: Application deadline: April 15. If you are a Veteran and served during a qualifying war or armed conflict, described below, you may be eligible for a tax credit if:

- You were honorably discharged, or are you the spouse of a veteran who was honorable discharged;
- You have been a resident of New Hampshire for at least one year preceding April 1st of this year; and
- You live in the home, as your primary residence, for which the tax credit is claimed

Basic eligibility requirements (see RSA 72:28 for complete eligibility requirements):

- Every resident of this state who served not less than 90 days in the armed forces of the United States in any qualifying war or armed conflict AND was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from service, or the spouse of such resident.
- Every resident of this state who was terminated from the armed forces because of service-connected disability; or the surviving spouse of such resident.
- The surviving spouse of any resident who suffered a service-connected death.

Veteran's Tax Credit (RSA 72:28): If you are a veteran, or a veteran's spouse or surviving spouse, you may be eligible for a \$500 tax credit. You will need to submit a copy of your DD- 214 along with your permanent application form PA-29. If you served in a war or conflict since May 8, 1975, please be sure the DD-214 you provide has your character of service (sometimes labeled Member 4 copy in the lower right-hand corner).

All Veteran's Tax Credit (RSA 72:28-b): If you are a veteran and a resident of this state who served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from service; or the spouse or surviving spouse of such resident, provided that Title 10 training for active duty by a member of a national guard or reserve, you may be eligible for a \$500 tax credit.

Credit for Surviving Spouse of a Veteran Who Was Killed or Died on Active Duty (RSA 72:29-a): If you are the surviving spouse of any person who was killed or dies while on active duty in the armed forces, you may be eligible for a tax credit. You will need to submit documentation from the Veterans Administration to support your status.

Credit for Service-Connected Total & Permanent Disability (RSA 72:35): If you are a qualified veteran with a total and permanent service-connected disability, or are a double amputee or paraplegic, or you are the surviving spouse of such a veteran, you may be eligible for a tax credit. You will need to submit documentation from the Veterans Administration to support your status.

Total Exemption (RSA 72:36-a): If your homestead has been specially adapted because of your service-related disability, you may be eligible for a total exemption from property taxes. You will need to submit documentation from the Veterans Administration to support your status, as well as documentation of the specially adapted homestead, and financing with the assistance of the Veterans Administration.

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Solar Energy Systems Exemption (RSA 72:61-64): Application deadline: April 15. This is an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value for property that is equipped with solar energy systems intended for use at the immediate site. This exemption would be equal to 100% of the assessed value of a qualifying solar energy system under these statutes.

Tax Deferral Lien: Per RSA 72:38-a, disabled residents or residents over 65 may apply for a tax deferral lien. This program allows a resident to defer payment of their residential property taxes, plus annual interest of 5%, until the transfer of their property or up to 85% of the property equity value.

Wind-Powered Energy Systems Exemption (RSA 72:65-68): Application deadline: April 15. This is an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value for property that is equipped with wind powered energy systems intended for use at the immediate site. This exemption would be equal to 100% of the assessed value of a qualifying wind-powered energy system under these statutes.

Wood-heating Energy Systems Exemption (RSA 72:70): Application deadline: April 15. This is an optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value for property that is equipped with wood-heating energy system (as defined in RSA 72:69) intended for use at the immediate site. This exemption would be equal to 100% of the assessed value of a qualifying wood-heating energy system under these statutes.