



**OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS**  
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## **Do You Qualify To Lower Your Property Taxes?**

The Town of Easton offers many tax exemptions designed to reduce the property tax burden of qualifying seniors and/or disabled veterans. These exemptions include:

**Clause 41D** **\$1000**  
**Elderly - Age 65**

To qualify, one must be 65 years of age as of July 1<sup>st</sup>; one's income cannot exceed \$27,600 (single person) or \$42,416 (married couple); assets cannot exceed \$46,883 (single person) and \$64,464 (married couple); and one must have owned and occupied the real estate for five years.

Income includes all sources, such as wages, Social Security, pensions, interest, dividends, rent, etc. There is a Social Security income exclusion of \$4,158 (single person) and \$6,237 (married persons). This annually adjusted amount is deducted from overall income to determine eligibility. Those filing must provide a copy of their most recent Federal Income Tax return, copies of balances in all bank and checking accounts, balances in IRAs, CDS and money market accounts, and verification of date of birth. If the property is held in trust, a copy of the trust must be submitted.

Assets include bank accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, saving certificates, boats, real estate, etc. Most primary residences are exempt from the asset qualification.

**To download an application, visit:** [http://www.mass.gov/Ador/docs/dls/publ/forms/Seniors\\_96\\_1.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/Ador/docs/dls/publ/forms/Seniors_96_1.pdf)

**Clause 17D** **\$175**  
**Widow, Widower, Person Over 70 or Minor Surviving Child**

To qualify, one must fit into one of the above categories as of July 1<sup>st</sup>; assets may not exceed \$40,000; and one must have owned and occupied the real estate for ten years. There is no income limit for this exemption.

Assets include bank accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, saving certificates, motor vehicles, boats, real estate, etc. Most primary residences are exempt from the asset qualification.

**To download an application, visit:**

<http://www.mass.gov/Ador/docs/dls/ /forms/Surviving Spouses Minors 96 2.pdf>.

**Clause 22**  
**\$400 - \$1000**  
**Disabled Veterans**

There are several exemptions available for veterans with war-related disabilities, veterans with Purple Hearts, Congressional Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross or Air Cross, and for surviving spouses of qualifying veterans.

**To download an application, visit:**

<http://www.mass.gov/Ador/docs/dls/publ/forms/Veterans 96 4.pdf>.

**Clause 37** **\$500**  
**Blind**

To qualify, one must have a certificate from the MA Commission of the Blind as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, and for each July 1<sup>st</sup> in which an application is filed.

**To download an application, visit:** <http://www.mass.gov/Ador/docs/dls/publ/forms/Blind 96 3.pdf>

**Clause 41A** **Varies**  
**Tax Deferral**

To qualify, one must be 65 years of age as of July 1<sup>st</sup>; one's income cannot exceed \$40,000; and one must occupy the residence.

**This exemption allows a qualifying resident to defer a portion or all of their annual real estate taxes until the owner(s) chooses to sell the property, or until the owner(s) dies and the estate is settled.**

**To download an application, visit:**

<http://wwwmass.gov/Ador/docs/dls/publ/forms/97 41A application.pdf>

