Important Information About Personal Exemptions

Property owners in Florida may be eligible for exemptions and additional benefits that can reduce their property tax liability. While the Homestead Exemption and Save-Our-Homes assessment limitation help thousands of Florida homeowners save money on their property taxes every year, further benefits are available to property owners with disabilities, senior citizens, disabled veterans, first responders and active duty military servicemembers. (*See our Veteran & First Responder Exemptions brochure*).

Additional Exemptions You May be Eligible For: Apply by March 1

- Homestead*
- First Responder Totally & Permanently Disabled in the Line of Duty*
- Veteran s Disability*
- Tax Benefit for 65+ Veterans with a Combat Related Disability*
- Deployed Military Service Members
- Service Connected Total and Permanent Disability*
- Surviving Spouse of Veteran Who Died in the Line of Duty

* This benefit may pass on to the surviving spouse under certain conditions.

Remember to Report Changes in Exemption Status

If you qualify for a homestead exemption or any other exemption, you must report any changes in your status that may make you ineligible for the exemption. Please call or email our office at hx@pcpao.org so we can help you understand your options.

We Are Here to Help!

Our friendly and knowledgeable customer service representatives are ready to answer your questions and assist in the application process.

Please visit us online, in person or call (727) 464-3207.

Please Note: This document is intended to provide information about personal exemptions. It does not constitute legal advice or a comprehensive review of exemption law. Please contact our office if you have any questions about exemptions.

Where May I Apply for a Personal Exemption?

File online* at **www.pcpao.gov** or in person at any office:

County Courthouse
315 Court St, 2nd Floor
Clearwater, FL 33756

Mid County
13025 Starkey Road
Largo, FL 33773

North County
29269 US Hwy 19 N
Clearwater, FL 33761

South County
2500 34th St N, 2nd Floor
St. Petersburg, FL 33713

Phone: (727) 464 3207

Hours: 8am 5pm, Monday Friday

When You Apply:

Please provide the following evidence of residency and qualifications for all owners and their spouses:

- Florida Automobile Registration and Driver s License*
- Pinellas County Voter Registration
- Permanent Resident Card (For non US citizens)
- A death certificate or obituary notice for the widow/widower exemption
- Social security numbers for all applicants and spouses

If you do not have all of this information or are unsure whether you qualify for the exemption, please call our friendly and knowledgeable customer service representatives at (727) 464 3207.

Please Note: Disclosure of your social security number is mandatory. It is required by Section 196.011(1), Florida Statutes. The social security number will be used to verify taxpayer information and homestead exemption information submitted to property appraisers.

*Online filing requires a Florida driver s license.

01/26

Mike Twitty, MAI, CFA Pinellas County Property Appraiser

Personal Exemptions

www.pcpao.gov

County Courthouse
315 Court St - 2nd Floor
Clearwater, FL 33756

Mid County
13025 Starkey Road
Largo, FL 33773

North County
29269 US Hwy 19 N
Clearwater, FL 33761

South County
2500 34th St N - 2nd Floor
St. Petersburg, FL 33713

Office: (727) 464-3207
Fax: (727) 464-3448
TTY: (727) 464-4062

Hours: 8am - 5pm, Monday - Friday

Low-Income Senior*

An additional income-based Senior Exemption is available in most municipalities and unincorporated Pinellas County.

To qualify, at least one property owner must be 65 years of age or older, already receive homestead exemption, live in a tax district offering the exemption, and meet the total household income limit. This exemption is based on total household adjusted gross income in the prior year. Contact our office or check our website for the current year's income limitation amount. Apply by March 1, income information is not due until June 1.

The senior exemption does not apply to other taxing authorities, such as the school district and other independent taxing authorities. The following taxing districts have adopted this additional exemption:

Belleair	$50,000	Oldsmar	$50,000
Belleair Beach	$25,000	Pinellas Park	$25,000
Belleair Bluffs	$25,000	Redington Bch	$25,000
Clearwater	$25,000	Redington Shores	$20,000
Dunedin	$50,000	Safety Harbor	$50,000
Gulfport	$25,000	St. Pete Beach	$25,000
Indian Rocks Bch	$50,000	St. Petersburg	$15,000
Indian Shores	$25,000	Seminole	$25,000
Kenneth City	$25,000	South Pasadena	$50,000
Largo	$25,000	Tarpon Springs	$25,000
Madeira Beach	$50,000	Treasure Island	$25,000
N Redington Bch	$50,000	Unincorporated	$50,000

Low-Income Senior, 25-Year Residency Exemption*

An additional exemption for certain Senior, Low-income, Long-term Residents is available in limited jurisdictions**. Those who qualify are exempt from municipal millage within their respective tax district.

To qualify, at least one property owner must be 65+ years of age, already receive homestead exemption, meet the annual income limit, have resided in their home for at least 25 years and their property just value must be less than $250,000 in the first year of application.

Mark Your Calendars

Be sure to file before the **March 1 deadline**.
You may apply online at www.pcpao.gov.

Exemption for totally and Permanently Disabled Persons*

Any homestead property used by a quadriplegic, paraplegic, hemiplegic or other totally and permanently disabled person, as defined in Section 196.012(11), Florida Statutes, who must use a wheelchair for mobility or who is legally blind, shall be exempt from ad valorem taxes.

Persons must be permanent Florida residents as of January 1 of the assessment year and the prior year gross income of all persons residing in or upon the homestead shall not exceed a specified amount. Quadriplegic persons have no income limitations. Contact our office or check our website for the current year's income limitation amount. Gross income includes Veterans Administration and any social security benefits paid to the persons. A statement of gross income must accompany the application. If filing for the first time, please bring certificates from two licensed Florida physicians or the Veterans Administration, stating the disability is total and permanent with mobility by wheelchair or quadriplegic.

Disability ($5,000)***

A $5,000 exemption is available on property owned by a 100% totally and permanently disabled person who does not use a wheelchair for mobility and/or whose income is over the statutory limit for total tax exemption. This is in addition to the homestead exemption. The exemption is available on any and all property owned by the applicant, and also applies to tangible personal property, such as mobile home attachments. The property owner is required to be a permanent and legal resident of Florida.

To qualify, the applicant must present a letter from their licensed Florida physician or the Social Security Administration stating that they have a 100% total and permanent disability. A letter from the Veteran's Administration is also acceptable if the letter states that the disability is non-service connected.

Deployed Servicemembers

This additional exemption is available to active duty military service members who have homestead exemption and were deployed outside of the United States in the prior year in support of designated military operations approved by the Florida Legislature. This exemption does not renew and must be applied for annually as the criteria will change each year.

Widow/Widower ($5,000)***

Any widow or widower who is a permanent Florida resident, may claim this exemption. This is in addition to the homestead exemption. Applicants will be asked to provide a death certificate when filing. If the widow/widower remarries, they are no longer eligible.

Exemption for Blind Persons ($5,000)***

A $5,000 exemption is available on property owned by a blind person whose income is over the statutory limit to qualify for total tax exemption. This is in addition to the homestead exemption.

The property owner is required to be a permanent and legal resident of Florida. The applicant must present a letter from their licensed Florida Physician, the Veteran's Administration, the Social Security Administration or the Division of Blind Services that they are legally blind. A blind person is defined as a person who is "certified by the Division of Blind Services of the Department of Education or the Federal Social Security Administration or United States Department of Veterans Affairs to be blind. As used herein "blind person" shall mean an individual having central vision acuity 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses or a disqualifying field defect in which the peripheral field has contracted to such an extent that the widest diameter or visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than twenty degrees."

* Subject to total household income limits annually.

** Currently adopted by North Redington Beach, Safety Harbor and St. Petersburg

*** Homestead is not required for this exemption, (limited to three properties).