



# ELK GROVE TOWNSHIP

2400 S. Arlington Heights Road      Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

## NEW TAX SAVINGS FOR VETERANS AND THE DISABLED

Contact Person: Connie Carosielli, Elk Grove Township Assessor

Disabled persons, disabled veterans, and returning veterans may be eligible for new property tax exemptions that take effect this year. Those qualifying for the new exemptions will see tax savings on second installment tax bills to be mailed this fall.

**Disabled Veterans Exemption.** Homeowners who are veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces or the Illinois National Guard and have a disability that resulted from their military service may be eligible for the Disabled Veterans Exemption. A surviving spouse of a disabled veteran may also be eligible for the exemption. The exemption is worth about \$500 if the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs rates the veteran's disability at 75% or more. Those with disabilities from 50% to 74% may be eligible for an exemption worth roughly \$250 per year.

For a property to receive the exemption, the veteran must have been an owner-occupant of the property as of January 1, 2007, must be honorably discharged from the military, and must have a letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs certifying the extent of his or her disability. High value properties with an Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) of \$250,000 or more (this roughly corresponds to a property with a market value of at least \$800,000) are not eligible for the exemption.

**Disabled Person's Exemption.** Homeowners who are disabled according to Social Security disability standards may be eligible for an exemption worth roughly \$200 per year. The Disabled Person's Exemption is available to all disabled people, whether or not they are veterans. Those receiving the Disabled Person's Exemption, however, will not be eligible for the Disabled Veterans Exemption.

For a property to receive the Disabled Person's Exemption, the disabled person must have been an owner-occupant of the property as of January 1, 2007, and must present proof of disability. Proof of disability can include: a disability benefits award letter from Social Security; a Class 2 Illinois Disabled Person Identification Card; a doctor's Statement for Proof of Disability.

**Returning Veterans Exemption.** Homeowners who return from military service in Iraq, Afghanistan, or any other armed conflict involving the United States may receive a one-time exemption worth about \$500. The exemption is available only in the year that the veteran returned from service.

To receive the exemption this year, the veteran must have been an owner-occupant of the property as of January 1, 2007, and have returned from military service in 2007. A veteran is an "occupant" of the property even if fighting overseas, provided that the owner intends to occupy the property when military service is complete.

"The new tax exemptions recognize the difficulties that the disabled have in paying property taxes, as well as the sacrifices that veterans make for our country," Elk Grove Township Assessor, Connie Carosielli noted. "Those eligible for the exemptions should feel free to call my office at 847-437-0300 for assistance in applying for them."

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