

APPLICATIONS FOR SENIOR PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS MAILED; ALL SENIORS MUST APPLY TO RENEW THEIR EXEMPTIONS

Contact Person: Connie Carosielli, Elk Grove Township Assessor, 847-437-0300

Elk Grove Township residents sixty-five years of age or older should receive renewal forms for senior citizen property tax exemptions in early January, and will have until February 6th to complete them. Local seniors should feel free to call the office of Elk Grove Township Assessor's Office for help with the forms.

**Eligibility for Senior Citizen Exemptions.** There are two senior tax exemptions:

- 1) The ***Senior Exemption***, available to all seniors regardless of income, reduces property taxes. It is available for any owner-occupied residential property if the owner was born in 1953 or earlier.
- 2) The ***Senior Freeze*** provides seniors with additional savings if the combined income of all members of the household is less than \$65,000, and if the senior has been an owner-occupant of the property since January 1, 2017.

The recently mailed senior applications are for the 2018 property taxes, which are paid in calendar year 2019. The savings from these exemptions will appear on second installment tax bills that will likely be mailed in late June of 2019.

**Maximum income for Senior Freeze higher than in prior years.** Between 2009 and 2017, seniors with annual household income of \$55,000 or less qualified for the Freeze. Last year, the maximum income rose to \$65,000, and it remains at that level. Seniors whose income was previously too high for the Freeze are advised to check to see if they now qualify.

**New Senior Citizens.** Homeowners who were born in 1953 turned sixty-five in 2018, and thus are likely to be eligible for the senior exemptions for the first time. "Taxpayers who recently turned sixty-five will probably not receive senior renewal forms in the mail," Assessor Carosielli said. "I encourage such individuals to call my office for information about the senior exemptions. Information is also available on the Cook County Assessor's web site."

**Homes formerly occupied by Senior Citizens.** If a senior was living at a property on January 1, 2018, the property should be eligible for the 2018 senior exemptions (paid in 2019), even if the senior citizen ceased living at the property later in 2018. But special application forms have to be completed for properties eligible for the senior exemption under such circumstances. Owners of homes previously occupied by senior citizens should call the Township Assessor's office for further information at 847-437-0300.

# COOK COUNTY ASSESSOR

**FRITZ KAEGI**



COOK COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE  
118 NORTH CLARK STREET, RM 320  
CHICAGO, IL 60602  
PHONE: 312.443.7550  
WWW.COOKCOUNTYASSESSOR.COM

## TAXPAYER EXEMPTION APPLICATION FOR TAX YEAR 2018

Property Index Number(s)

Property Index Number(s)

Daytime Phone Number

Owner / Taxpayer

Property Address

City State Zip

### 2018 HOMEOWNER EXEMPTION

You must please, include a copy of a recent property tax bill and a copy of one of the following valid forms of residency with this application: an Illinois Driver's License **OR** an Illinois Identification (ID) Card.

As owner of the above property, I hereby apply for the Homeowner Exemption. I affirm by signature that this property was occupied by its current or previous owner as a principal residence as of January 1, 2018. I understand that it is against the law to provide false information on this Homeowner Exemption application.

Applicant's Signature

Date

### 2018 SENIOR CITIZEN EXEMPTION

You must please, include a copy of a recent property tax bill and a copy of one of the following valid forms of proof of age and residency with this application: an Illinois Driver's License **OR** an Illinois Identification (ID) Card.

**NOTE:** Individuals using forms indicating a different name must demonstrate a connection to the current name by including a copy of a marriage certificate or other supporting documents. Owners of Cooperative Apartments must also submit a copy of their Stock Certificate, Occupancy or Trust Agreement.

I affirm that I was born in **1953 or earlier**, or my spouse was born in **1953 or earlier**. I further affirm that myself or my spouse is liable for payment of the taxes and that this property was occupied by its current or previous owner as a principal residence.

Date of Occupancy

Date of Birth

Applicant's Signature

Date

Please note that policy requires that the Assessor's Office receive only **original, signed application forms containing original ("wet") signatures**. So, we are *unable to accept forms by scan/email or by FAX*. All original, signed forms must please be mailed or dropped off at a Cook County Assessor's Office location:

- **Chicago office:** 118 N. Clark St., Room 320, Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 443-7550
- **Skokie office:** 5600 Old Orchard Road, Room 149, Skokie, IL 60077 (847) 470-7237
- **Bridgeview office:** 10200 S. 76th Ave., Room 237, Bridgeview, IL 60455 (708) 974-6451
- **Markham office:** 16501 S. Kedzie Ave., Room 237, Markham, IL 60426 (708) 232-4100



## **Senior Citizen Exemption Certificate of Error Requirements**

The Senior Citizen Exemption Certificate of Error is available to all qualified owners of residential properties who did not receive a Senior Citizen Exemption for the year in question. The Assessor's Office can issue a Certificate of Error **for at least three years prior to the current tax year**. The property is required to have been occupied as the current owner's principal place of residence as of January 1 of the year in question. If a senior moves into the property after January 1, he or she may receive a prorated exemption based on the month the property was purchased. The requirements for a Senior Citizen Exemption Certificate of Error are as follows:

- (1) You must be 65 years or older in the year for which you apply, and
- (2) You must have either owned the property, or had a lease or contract making you responsible for real estate taxes that year, and
- (3) In order to verify that the property was owner-occupied during the tax year in question, documentation must be provided to support your application. **You must submit a photocopy of the following:**
  - (a) a *COPY* of one official document showing your date of birth AND correct address, such as a Driver's License, Illinois ID Card or Social Security Awards letter with birth date included; **and**
  - (b) a copy of a recent property tax bill for your home.

**NOTE: Women whose names are different from that on ID must provide documents (such as marriage certificate) demonstrating connection with current name. Owners of Cooperative units must also submit a Stock Certificate Occupancy Agreement or Trust Agreement.**

Once you have submitted the appropriate application and documentation and they are approved, your Certificate of Error will be issued. You will be sent a letter once your Certificate of Error has been certified. This letter will provide information about obtaining a refund, if one is warranted. Any inquiries should be made to the Taxpayer Services Department at (312) 443-7550.

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**FRITZ KAEGI**

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**Senior Citizen Exemption  
Certificate of Error Application**

C/E Year \_\_\_\_\_

C/E Number \_\_\_\_\_

Property Index Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Owner / Taxpayer \_\_\_\_\_

Property Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Township \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

*If property is prorated, please submit a separate application for each PIN.*

Through my signature below I apply for the Senior Citizen Exemption for the Certificate of Error tax year listed above. I affirm that I was 65 years of age or older during the year listed above, that as of January 1 of the year listed above I owned the property described by the Property Index Number above or had a lease or contract which made me liable for its real estate taxes, and that as of January 1 of the year listed above the property was my principle residence. I understand that it is against the law to provide false information on this Senior Citizen Exemption Application.

Signature of Owner/Lessee or Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT: THIS IS AN APPLICATION ONLY**

*You will be notified by mail as to the disposition of the application.*

*All inquiries should be made to the Taxpayer Information Department at (312) 443-7550.*

*If the property owner takes residence after January 1, he or she may receive a prorated exemption based on the month the property was purchased. Please contact our office for more information.*

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**