



Town of Seekonk
Massachusetts
Board of Assessors

PAUL K. BUCKLEY, CHAIRMAN
NELSON ALMEIDA, VICE CHAIRMAN
EDWARD F. MCGOVERN, CLERK

LYDIA A. CORDEIRO, TOWN ASSESSOR

July 1, 2022

RE: FY'23 Hardship Exemption Application

Dear Property Owner,

Please fill out and complete the enclosed application, making sure to state your *legal residence* as well as your *property location*.

Once completed, kindly return your signed application, *along with the required paperwork* (listed with the application) to the Assessor's Office as soon as possible.

Applications received by November 1st, 2022 and approved by the Board of Assessors will have the exemption applied to the Fiscal Year 2023 Actual Tax Bill. Please note, the Board of Assessors cannot act upon applications received or post marked after April 3rd, 2023.

Should you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment for assistance with completing the application, please contact our office at 508-336-2980.

Sincerely,

Lydia A. Cordeiro, Town Assessor

Enclosure: FY'23 Hardship Exemption Application

ALL INFORMATION SUPPLIED IS CONFIDENTIAL AND PROTECTED FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.

100 Peck Street, Seekonk, MA 02771

Phone: (508) 336-2980 • Fax: (508) 336-0764 • EMAIL lcordeiro@seekonk-ma.gov



Town of Seekonk
Massachusetts
Board of Assessors

PAUL K. BUCKLEY, CHAIRMAN
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LYDIA A. CORDEIRO, TOWN ASSESSOR

June 16, 2022

RE: Criteria for Hardship Exemption for Fiscal Year 2023
Board of Assessors voted and approved: June 16, 2022
G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 18

1. Applicant must file the Clause 18, State Form 98 with the Board of Assessors on or before December 15th of the year to which the tax relates or 3 (three) months after the Real Property tax bill is mailed, whichever is later.
2. Applicant must be at least 55 years of age, infirmed and impoverished.
3. Applicant must provide a letter of disability from his/her doctor.
4. Members of National Guard or Reservists who incur a financial hardship while on active duty, regardless of where they serve and their age.
5. Applicant must have an ownership interest in the subject property for a minimum of 3 (three) years. If property is held jointly with another person, all owners must independently qualify.
6. If property is held in a trust, applicant must have beneficial interest and be a trustee.
7. Maximum amount of \$750.00 (seven hundred fifty).
8. Maximum Income Limits including Social Security Exclusion:

Income: Cannot exceed \$25,201 - Single, \$37,802 - Married (same requirements as 41C)

Asset Requirements: Cannot exceed: \$40,000 – Single \$50,000 Married (same requirements as 41C)

Expenses: Actual expenses must be listed on Tax Form 98

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Assessors' Use only	
Date Received	
Application No.	
Parcel Id.	

TOWN OF SEEKONK

Name of City or Town

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP: ACTIVATED MILITARY - AGE AND INFIRMITY
FISCAL YEAR 2023 APPLICATION FOR STATUTORY EXEMPTION
General Laws Chapter 59, § 5, CLAUSE 18

THIS APPLICATION IS NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION
(See General Laws Chapter 59, § 60)

Return to: Board of Assessors

Must be filed with assessors on or before April 1, or 3 months after actual (not preliminary) tax bills are mailed for fiscal year if later.

Due: April 3, 2023

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete all sections that apply. Please print or type.

A. IDENTIFICATION. Complete this section fully.

Name of Applicant _____	Occupation _____
Telephone Number _____	Marital Status _____
Legal Residence (Domicile) on July 1, 2022 _____	Mailing Address (If different) _____
No. Street City/Town Zip Code	
Location of Property: _____	No. of Dwelling Units: 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Did you own the property on July 1, 2022? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, were you: Sole Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Co-owner with Spouse Only <input type="checkbox"/> Co-owner with Others <input type="checkbox"/>	
Was the property subject to a trust as of July 1, 2022? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, please attach trust instrument including all schedules.	
Have you been granted any exemption in any other city or town (MA or other) for this year? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, name of city or town _____ Amount exempted \$ _____	

DISPOSITION OF APPLICATION (ASSESSORS' USE ONLY)

Ownership <input type="checkbox"/>	GRANTED <input type="checkbox"/>	Assessed tax \$ _____
Occupancy <input type="checkbox"/>	DENIED <input type="checkbox"/>	Exempted tax \$ _____
Status <input type="checkbox"/>	DEEMED DENIED <input type="checkbox"/>	Adjusted tax \$ _____
Financial condition <input type="checkbox"/>		Board of Assessors
Date voted/Deemed denied _____		
Certificate No. _____		
Date Cert./Notice sent _____		
	Date: _____	

FILING THIS FORM DOES NOT STAY THE COLLECTION OF YOUR TAXES

THIS FORM APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE

B. EXEMPTION STATUS. Check the status that applies to you and complete the questions that follow.

ACTIVATED MILITARY PERSONNEL

- Initially enlisted in the armed forces.
- Military status changed to active duty.

Date of activation to active duty. _____ *Attach copy of orders.*

GO ON TO SECTION D

OLDER AND INFIRM PERSON

You must meet both age and infirmity requisites to qualify.

Date of Birth _____ *Attach a copy of birth certificate.*

Provide a detailed description of the physical or mental illness, disability or impairment.

Attach a physician's letter documenting your infirmity.

GO ON TO SECTION C

C. EMPLOYMENT STATUS.

Are you able to work? Yes No *If no, your physician's letter must confirm this status.*

If unemployed, state date of last employment _____

GO ON TO SECTION D

D. INSURANCE BENEFITS. Complete this section if you are a surviving spouse.

Date and place of spouse's death _____

Total amount of insurance received _____

Name of insurance company or fraternal society _____

GO ON TO SECTION E

E. FAMILY ASSISTANCE. Complete this section if you are receiving any financial assistance from family members.

Name	Relationship	Residence	Occupation	Wages	Assistance given
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Continue list on attachment in same format as necessary.

GO ON TO SECTION F

F. FINANCIAL STATEMENT. Complete this section fully. Copies of your federal and state tax returns and other documentation may be requested to verify your income and assets.

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
REAL ESTATE			
Domicile value	\$ _____	Mortgage outstanding balance	\$ _____
Other value	_____		_____
PERSONAL ESTATE			
Motor vehicle values (year/make/model)	_____	Car loan balances	_____
	_____		_____
Bank account balances (Bank name & address)	_____		_____
	_____		_____
Other (specify)	_____	Other outstanding debts (personal loans, credit cards, etc.)	_____
	_____		_____
TOTAL	\$ _____	TOTAL	\$ _____
INCOME		EXPENSES	
	Monthly		Monthly
Wages & salaries -Annual \$	\$ _____	Mortgage payments (including taxes)	\$ _____
Unemployment compensation.....	_____	Food	_____
Social Security.....	_____	Utilities:	_____
Other pension/retirement.....	_____	Electricity	_____
Public assistance:	_____	Gas	_____
AFDC	_____	Heating fuel.....	_____
Food stamps.....	_____	Telephone.....	_____
Fuel assistance.....	_____	Water/sewer.....	_____
Other	_____	Debt payments:	_____
Rental income.....	_____	Car loans	_____
Business/professional profits.....	_____	Credit cards	_____
Interest/dividends.....	_____	Personal loans.....	_____
Other (specify)	_____	Fixed expenses:	_____
_____	_____	Car insurance.....	_____
_____	_____	House insurance	_____
	_____	Other (specify)	_____
	_____		_____
TOTAL	\$ _____	TOTAL	\$ _____

GO ON TO SECTION G

G. SIGNATURE. Sign here to complete the application.

This application has been prepared or examined by me. Under the pains and penalties of perjury, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this return and all accompanying documents and statements are true, correct and complete.

Signature

Date

If signed by agent, attach copy of written authorization to sign on behalf of taxpayer.

TAXPAYER INFORMATION ABOUT FINANCIAL HARDSHIP EXEMPTION

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP EXEMPTION. You may be able to reduce all or a portion of the taxes assessed on your domicile if you do not have the financial resources to pay them because (1) you were called into active military service (not including initial enlistment), or (2) you are older and suffer some physical or mental illness, disability or impairment. Qualifications are established locally by the board of assessors. More detailed information may be obtained from your assessors.

WHO MAY FILE AN APPLICATION. You may file an application if you owned and occupied the property and meet all qualifications for a financial hardship exemption as of July 1.

WHEN AND WHERE APPLICATION MUST BE FILED. Your application must be filed with the assessors on or before April 1, or 3 months after the actual bills were mailed for the fiscal year, whichever is later. THIS DEADLINE CANNOT BE EXTENDED OR WAIVED BY THE ASSESSORS FOR ANY REASON. IF YOUR APPLICATION IS NOT TIMELY FILED, YOU LOSE ALL RIGHTS TO AN EXEMPTION AND THE ASSESSORS CANNOT BY LAW GRANT YOU ONE. AN APPLICATION IS FILED WHEN RECEIVED BY THE ASSESSORS.

PAYMENT OF TAX. Filing an application does not stay the collection of your taxes. Failure to pay the tax when due may also subject you to interest charges and collection action. To avoid any additional charges, you should pay the tax as assessed if possible. If an exemption is granted and you have already paid the entire year's tax as exempted, you will receive a refund of any overpayment. If you are unable to make your payments, inform the assessors when you file your application.

ASSESSORS DISPOSITION. Upon applying for a financial hardship exemption, you may be required to provide the assessors with further information and supporting documentation to establish your eligibility. The assessors have 3 months from the date your application is filed to act on it unless you agree in writing before that period expires to extend it for a specific time. If the assessors do not act on your application within the original or extended period, it is deemed denied. You will be notified in writing whether an exemption has been granted or denied.

APPEAL. In order to obtain a review of the assessors' decision on your application for a financial hardship exemption, you must bring a civil action in the Superior Court or Supreme Judicial Court. This action must be brought within 60 days of the decision.

CLAUSE 18 – HARDSHIP EXEMPTION
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

1. **Applicant must have reached his/her 55th birthday prior to July 1st** of the fiscal year for which the exemption is sought.
2. Applicant must have ownership interest in the subject property for a minimum of 3 years. If property is held jointly with another person, all owners must independently qualify.
3. Members of the National Guard or Reservists who incur a financial hardship while on active duty, regardless of where they serve at their age.
4. If property is held in a trust, applicant must have beneficial interest and be a trustee.
5. Applicant's **whole estates (assets)**, excluding assessed value of domicile, as of July 1st in the year of application cannot exceed **\$40,000 if single or \$50,000 for a married couple.**
6. Applicant's **gross receipts (income)**, for the preceding year from all sources, including Social Security cannot exceed **\$20,000 if single or \$30,000 for a married couple.**
With Social Security: \$25,201 if single or \$37,802 for a married couple.

FISCAL YEAR 2023 DOCUMENTS NEEDED FOR THE CLAUSE 18 EXEMPTION

Please submit to the Assessor's Office the following DOCUMENTS which are REQUIRED to complete your application:

- Letter of Disability from Doctor
- Birth Certificate (1st year of filing only)
- Copy of **2021** Income Tax Return
- Copy of Trust (required if the property is held in a Trust)

Income & Expenses (for 2021):

1. Social Security Earnings for **2021** (the 1099 Form)
(For a copy of SAA-1099 call 1-800-655-6469 or 1-800-772-1213 at 106 Pleasant St., Attleboro, MA 02703)
2. Pensions received in **2021**
3. Interest and Dividends earned in **2021**
4. Capital Gains
5. Public Assistance Letters (fuel assistance, circuit breaker, food stamps, etc.)
6. Other earned income (wages, rents, etc.)
7. Complete entire income & expense section

For Assets: as of June 30, 2022 (excluding the value of the domicile & vehicle(s):

1. **All bank statements (or books) showing the balances as of June 30, 2022 for all savings, checking, CD's, IRA's, annuities, stocks, bonds, etc.**
2. List any other real estate owned inside or outside of Massachusetts, including any other countries.