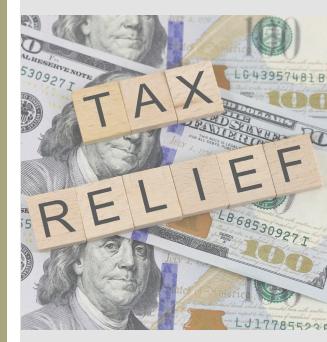
Property Tax Relief in Utah (2024)

USTC Property & Misc. Tax Division

Tax Rates Team



Application Deadlines for Tax Relief & Appeals

- Most tax relief has an application deadline of September 1 st
 - County may extend application deadline "if good cause exists" until
 December 31st
- Applicants who are denied tax relief by the county may appeal to the USTC within 30 days of notice of denial
 - Applicants must submit appeal through county auditor's office
 - Denial of discretionary adjustments/deferrals cannot be appealed



Types of Tax Relief

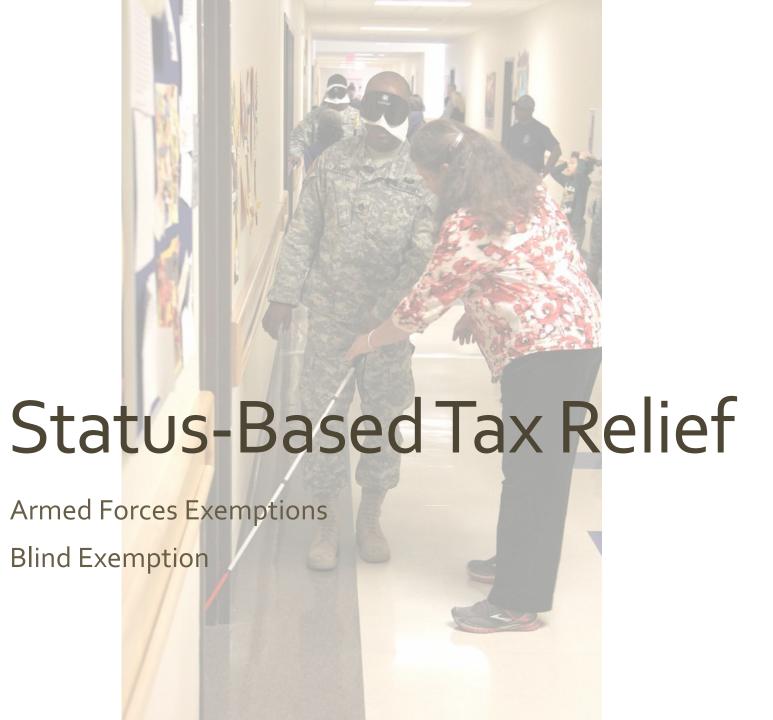
- Tax relief falls into one of 3 categories:
 - Status-based tax relief
 - Armed Forces Exemptions
 - Disabled Veteran
 - Active-Duty
 - Blind Abatement
 - Income-based tax relief
 - Homeowner's Credit (<u>&</u> Homeowner's Valuation Reduction)
 - Indigent Abatement
 - Indigent Deferral
 - Renter's Credit (<u>&</u> Homeowner's Valuation Reduction)
 - Senior Deferral (CB75+)
 - Special/Other tax relief
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Active-Duty Exemption

Amount

- <u>Total taxable value</u> of active-duty claimant's primary residence is exempt for the calendar year <u>after</u> the year in which the claimant completed qualifying military service
- Claimant may be:
 - The active-duty servicemember
- Proof required:
 - Completed travel voucher or other satisfactory evidence of eligible military service
 - Statement that lists the dates which the 200 days of qualifying active duty military service began & ended



Disabled Veteran Exemption

Amount

- The taxable value of eligible property is exempted by the percentage of disability multiplied by the adjusted taxable value limit—which is adjusted annually—owned on September 1st each calendar year
 - The unmarried surviving spouse or minor orphan of a veteran who was killed in action (or died in the line of duty) receives an exemption equal to the <u>total taxable value</u> of the veteran claimant's eligible property*
- Claimant may be:
 - The disabled veteran
 - An unmarried surviving spouse of the veteran
 - A minor orphan of the deceased veteran
- Proof required:
 - Initial application[†]
 - · Copy of the veteran's certificate of discharge from military service
 - A statement issued by a military entity that lists the veteran's percentage of disability



Blind Exemption

- Amount
 - \$11,500 of taxable value of real and tangible personal property
- Claimant may be:
 - A blind person
 - The unmarried surviving spouse of a blind person
 - A minor orphan of a blind person
- Proof required:
 - Initial application
 - Signed statement made by a licensed ophthalmologist verifying that the blind person either:
 - a) Has no more than 20/200 visual acuity in the better eye when corrected
 - b) If the person has $\underline{\text{central}}$ visual acuity better than 20/200, a restriction of the field of vision in the better eye which subtends an angle of vision no greater than 20°



Income-Based Tax Relief

Homeowner's/Renter's Credits <u>&</u> Homeowner's Valuation Reduction Indigent Abatement & Deferral Senior Deferral (CB75+)



Household Income

• Household income means all income received by all members of a claimant's household in the calendar year preceding the calendar year in which property taxes are due but does not include income received by a member of a claimant's household who is under the age of 18 or is a parent or grandparent through blood, marriage, or adoption of the claimant or the claimant's spouse.

Taxable Income

Federally Adjusted Gross Income (FAGI)

Nontaxable

- Social Security Benefits (except Disability income)
- Nontaxable strike benefits
- Loss carry forwards
- Rental depreciation
- Wages and salaries
- Interest and dividends
- Trust income

- Support payments
- Retirement income and voluntary contributions to a tax-deferred retirement plan
- Pensions and annuities
- Capital gains
- Workers' compensation



Nontaxable Income Exemptions

- Public assistance, including:
 - Medical assistance provided under Utah Code <u>Title 26B, Chapter 3</u>
 - SNAP Benefits
 - Services or benefits provided under the Utah Employment Support Act (<u>Title 35A, Chapter 3</u>)
 - Foster care maintenance payments provided from the General Fund or under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act
- Aid, assistance, or contributions from a tax-exempt NGO source
- Relief in kind supplied by a public or private agency
- Property tax relief granted in previous years
- Social Security Disability Income
- Federal tax refunds
- Federal child tax credit that exceed the taxpayer's federal tax liability
- Federal earned income credit that exceeds the taxpayer's federal tax liability
- Reverse mortgage payments
- Payments/Reimbursements to federal senior program volunteers
- Gifts/Bequests
- Wages earned by a minor or by the claimant's parent/grandparent



Homeowner's/ Renter's Credit

Amount

- Sliding scale—maximum amount is \$1,259; minimum amount is \$197*
 - This is in addition to the homeowner's valuation reduction that is required to be applied to a qualified homeowner's/renter's credit

Claimant must:

- Be 66+ years old
 - OR a widow/widower of any age
- Have a total annual income (taxable <u>and</u> nontaxable) of less than \$40,840
- Not be claimed as a dependent on someone else's tax return
- Be a Utah resident for the entire calendar year
- Claim the credit on their primary residence

Proof required:

 Copy of income taxes including applicable/related forms and schedules (i.e., Schedule 1, Form 8919, etc.)



Homeowner's Valuation Reduction

- Amount
 - 20% tax reduction on fair market value of residence
 - Taxable value becomes 35% of market value instead of normal 55% for primary residences
- Claimant must:
 - Qualify for the Homeowner's Credit
- Proof required:
 - N/A



Senior Deferral (CB75+)

Amount

Full amount of property tax and tax notice charges

Claimant must:

- Be 75+ years old (in the year they apply)
- Have a total annual income (taxable <u>and</u> nontaxable) of less than \$81,680
 - Have household liquid resources that do not exceed 20x the amount of property taxes levied on the residence in the preceding calendar year
- Have no outstanding penalties or interest or delinquent property taxes

• EITHER:

- The value of an attached or detached single-family residence is no greater than the county <u>median</u> property value of the same type
- The eligible owner has continuously owned the single-family residence for 20+ years as of January 1st in the first year of the application

Proof required:

- Copy of income taxes including applicable/related forms and schedules (i.e., Schedule 1, Form 8919, etc.)
 - Copy of bank statements
 - Statement/Proof of how much cash they have on them when submitting the application*
- Proof of age
- Proof that applicant resides at the single-family residence on the application



Household Liquid Resources

- <u>Household liquid resources</u> means the following resources that are not included in an individual's *household income* and held by one or more members of the individual's *household*:
 - Cash on hand
 - Money in a checking or savings account
 - Savings certificates
 - Stocks or bonds
- <u>Household</u> means the association of individuals who live in the same dwelling, sharing the dwelling's furnishings, facilities, accommodations, and expenses.



Indigent Individual

- At least 65 years old;
 - Or is less than 65 years old and:
 - The county finds that extreme hardship would prevail on the individual if the county does not defer or abate the individual's taxes; or
 - The individual has a disability
 - There is no age minimum for an unmarried surviving spouse (widow/widower)
- Has a total household income of less than the maximum household income certified to a homeowner's credit
- Resides for at least 10 months of the year in the residence that would be subject to the requested abatement or deferral; and
- Cannot pay the tax assessed on the individual's residence when the tax becomes due



Indigent Abatement

- Amount
 - The lesser of:
 - 50% of the total tax levied
 - The maximum amount of a homeowner's credit (2024–\$1,259)
- Claimant must:
 - Be an indigent individual (see <u>slide 16</u>)
- Proof required:
 - If indigent through disability or hardship:
 - Include a signed statement that describes the eligibility of the applicant for the application
 - Copy of income taxes including applicable/related forms and schedules (i.e., Schedule 1, Form 8919, etc.)



Indigent Deferral

- Amount
 - The lesser of:
 - 50% of the total tax levied
 - The maximum amount of a homeowner's credit (2024–\$1,259)
- Claimant must:
 - Be an indigent individual (see <u>slide 16</u>)
 - Not own any income-producing assets that can be liquidated to pay taxes
 - Get written approval from the holder of each mortgage/trust deed
- Proof required:
 - If indigent through disability or hardship:
 - Include a signed statement that describes the eligibility of the applicant for the application
 - Copy of income taxes including applicable/related forms and schedules (i.e., Schedule 1, Form 8919, etc.)
 - 3-year list of assets transferred to relatives



Special/Other Tax Relief

Qualified Increase Deferral

Discretionary Adjustment/Deferral



Qualified Increase Deferral

- Amount
 - 5-year deferral of amount owed (20% due each year)
- Claimant may be:
 - Owners identified by the county assessor in their mandatory review of data for tax years 2023 & 2024 and notified by the county auditor with their valuation notices (NOVs)
- Special Requirements:
 - Application deadline—June 30, 2025*
 - · Owners who wish to receive this deferral must apply for it
 - Any penalties/interest that accrued in the year their property had a qualified increase must be waived[†]
 - May have 2 separate deferrals (2023 and/or 2024)



Discretionary Adjustment/ Deferral

Amount

Up to full taxable amount

Claimant may be:

 Any interested person who applies to the county BOE for an adjustment/deferral of taxes levied against any of their property

Special Requirements:

- "The best human interests and interests of the state and county" must be served
- Within 10 days, a publication of the adjustment/deferral must be made in a public space within the county
- No later than the last day of each month, a record of the adjustment/deferral must be sent to the USTC



Tax Relief Code References

- Armed Forces Exemptions—<u>Title 59, Chapter 2, Part 19</u>
 - Disabled Veterans-§§<u>59-2-1903</u> & <u>59-2-1904</u>
 - Active-Duty Armed Forces—§59-2-1902
- Blind Exemption—§59-2-1106
- Discretionary Adjustment/Deferral—§59-2-1347
- Homeowner's & Renter's Credit—§§59-2-1208 & 59-2-1209
 - Homeowner's Valuation Reduction—§59-2-1202(10) & §59-2-1204
- Indigent Relief

 § 59-2-1804
 - Abatement-§<u>59-2-1803</u>
 - Deferral-§<u>59-2-1802</u>
- Qualifying Increase Deferral—§59-2-1802.1
- Senior Deferral (CB75+)-§59-2-1802.5



Questions? Contact Us!

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