

District Adopts Property Tax Rebate for Senior Citizens on Fixed and Limited Incomes

In adopting the “Senior Citizens Real Property Tax Rebate Resolution of 2005” authorizing property tax rebates for certain senior citizens and other qualifying claimants, the Board recognizes the difficulty of senior citizens living on fixed and limited incomes to pay property taxes on their homes. In an effort to alleviate that burden, the district will provide annual property tax rebates in amounts based on the amount of property taxes paid by a claimant on their owned and occupied homestead and the homeowner’s income.

Questions and answers:

Q: What is the Senior Citizens Real Property Tax Rebate?

A: The program authorizes annual property tax rebates for certain senior citizens and other qualifying claimants with limited incomes.

Q: Who will qualify for a rebate?

A: Eligible to submit claims for property tax rebates are those who meet the following criteria:

1. Owned, occupied, and paid taxes on a residence within Parkland School District during 2011.
2. Meet one of the following filing status qualifications:
 - Age 65 or older as of December 31, 2011.
 - Under age 65 with a spouse age 65 or older as of December 31, 2011.
 - Widow or widower, age 50 to 64 as of December 31, 2011.
 - Permanently disabled, age 18 to 64 during 2011.
3. Meet the income guidelines under the state’s rebate program.

Q: What taxes are being rebated?

A: Rebates will be provided in 2012 for a portion of school taxes paid in the 2011-2012 school year (property tax bills sent out on July 1, 2011).

Q: How does one go about filing for a rebate?

A: Application for a tax rebate will be made on forms provided by the school district, which will be available after January 1, 2012.

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Q: What information will be required on the form?

A: Application forms will be developed using income and eligibility guidelines similar to those used for state property tax rebates under the Senior Citizens Rebate and Assistance Act of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Q: Do I need to file for a rebate from the state to qualify for a rebate from the school district?

A: Yes, a signed copy of the PA-1000 (state rebate application) will be required to be filed with the District application. If you have applied for the state rebate in a prior year, you should be receiving one in the mail this year. If you have not filed with the state in the past, you can obtain a state form from PA Department of Revenue (1-800-362-2050, ask for Form PA-1000), or from the office of your State Representative. It is our understanding that these forms are not available until after February 1st.

Q: Where do I get the Parkland form?

A: District forms will be available after January 1, 2012, at the district's Business Office (610-351-5510), at the township tax collectors' offices, at the Parkland Community Library and on the Parkland School District website (www.parklandsd.org) Departments-Business Administration-Senior Citizen Property Tax Rebate-Senior Citizen Tax Rebate Form.

Q: When must I file the form?

A: Forms can be filed after January 1, 2012 once you've filed your state tax rebate form, and no later than June 30, 2012.

Q: When will rebates be processed?

A: Checks will be processed and mailed monthly.

Q: How much of a rebate may I receive?

A: The amount of any tax rebate for real property taxes payable during the School District fiscal year 2011/2012 and subsequent School District fiscal years will be determined in accordance with income schedule in the state's now-current eligibility guidelines.

The maximum amount of rebate payable shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per year. The District will not issue a rebate that when added to the State rebate would exceed the total amount of the school district property tax paid, and no rebates will be issued if the amount of the property tax rebate computed in accordance with this section is less than ten dollars (\$10.00).

Property Tax Rebate Information Sheet