

22
ASSESSORS' USE ONLY
Application No. _____
Date Received: _____

STATE TAX FORM 96-4
Rev. 7/2019

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

**VETERAN
APPLICATION FOR STATUTORY EXEMPTION
FISCAL YEAR _____**

General Laws Chapter 59, § 5

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 the fiscal year if later.

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete the following. Please print or type.

A. IDENTIFICATION. Complete this section fully.

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

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 \$ _____
Income <input type="checkbox"/>		
Assets <input type="checkbox"/>		Board of Assessors
Date Voted/Deemed Denied _____		_____
Certificate No. _____		_____
Date Cert. /Notice Sent _____		_____
Exemption: Clause _____		Date: _____

FILING THIS FORM DOES NOT STAY THE COLLECTION OF YOUR TAXES

THIS FORM APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE

(OVER)

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

VETERAN

VETERAN'S SPOUSE

Veteran's Name _____

Was the property the veteran's domicile as of July 1, _____ ?

Yes No

If no, where does the veteran reside? _____

**VETERAN'S/SERVICEMEMBER'S/
NATIONAL GUARD MEMBER'S
SURVIVING SPOUSE OR SERVICE-
MEMBER'S SURVIVING PARENT
(or GUARDIAN if local option adopted -
See Assessors)**

Deceased Veteran's /Servicemember's/National Guard member's
Name _____

If first year of application, attach copy of death certificate.

If you are surviving spouse, have you remarried? Yes No

Date Enlisted/Inducted _____

Date Discharged _____

Type of Discharge _____

If first year of application, attach copy of discharge papers.

Military Decorations or Awards _____

Did the veteran/service/national guard member live in Massachusetts at least 6 months before entering the service?

Yes No *If no, list places and dates where veteran or member lived during the last 3 years or if deceased, the 3 years before death (2 years if local option adopted – See Assessors).*

Address

Dates

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Continue list on attachment in same format as necessary.

If yes to any of the next 2 questions and if first year of application, (1) attach documentation from U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, branch of service and (2) list above places and dates where surviving spouse has lived during the last 3 years (2 years if local option adopted – See Assessors).

Is the servicemember or national guard member missing in action and presumed dead? Yes No

Was the proximate cause of the veteran's, servicemember's or national guard member's death due to an active duty injury or illness? Yes No

If yes to the next question and first year of application, attach documentation from U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs or branch of service.

Has the servicemember or veteran ever been a prisoner of war? Yes No

If yes to the next question and first year of application, attach Certificate of Disability from U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs or branch of service.

Does the veteran have a 100% disability rating for service-connected blindness? Yes No

If yes to any of the next 3 questions and if first year of application, attach Certificate of Disability from U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs or branch of service. If exemption granted previously, attach certificate only if disability rating is 100% or has changed.

Does the veteran have a service-connected disability? Yes No

Has the veteran acquired "specially adapted housing"? Yes No

Is the veteran a paraplegic? Yes No

C. 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 PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS

PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS. You may be eligible to reduce all or a portion of the taxes assessed on your domicile if you meet the qualifications for one of the personal exemptions allowed under Massachusetts law. Qualifications vary, but generally relate to age, ownership, residency, disability, income or assets.

You may be eligible for an exemption if you fall into any of these categories:

- Legally blind person
- Veteran with a service-connected disability
- Surviving spouse of a servicemember, national guard member or veteran who died from active duty injury or illness
- Surviving spouse
- Minor child of a deceased parent⁶
- Senior citizen age 70 and older (65 and older by local option)

More detailed information about the qualifications for each exemption may be obtained from your board of assessors.

WHO MAY FILE AN APPLICATION. You may file an application if you meet all qualifications for a personal exemption as of July 1. You may also apply if you are the personal representative of the estate, or trustee under the will, of a person who qualified for a personal exemption on 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. An application is filed when (1) received by the assessors on or before the filing deadline, or (2) mailed by United States mail, first class postage prepaid, to the proper address of the assessors, on or before the filing deadline, as shown by a postmark made by the United State Postal Service. **THIS DEADLINE CANNNOT 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.**

PAYMENT OF TAX. Filing an application does not stay the collection of your taxes. In some cases, you must pay all preliminary and actual installments of the tax when due to appeal the assessors' disposition of your application. Failure to pay the tax when due may also subject you to interest charges and collection action. To avoid any loss of rights or additional charges, you should pay the tax as assessed. 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.

ASSESSORS DISPOSITION. Upon applying for an 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. You may appeal the disposition of your application to the Appellate Tax Board or, if applicable, the County Commissioners. The appeal must be filed within 3 months of the date the assessors acted on your application, or the date your application was deemed denied, whichever is applicable. The disposition notice will provide you with further information about the appeal procedure and deadline.

ASSESSORS' OFFICE

Homer Municipal Building, 1st Floor

19 Moore Street, PO Box 56

Belmont, MA 02478

617-993-2630

Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-12pm

www.belmont-ma.gov