

Town of Georgetown
Senior Citizen Property Tax Incentive Program 2020

I. Purpose:

The purpose of the Town of Georgetown's Senior Citizen Property Tax Incentive Program is to assist senior citizens over 60 years in the payment of their annual property taxes. Incorporating the skills and knowledge offered by elders, the program also increases the involvement of local elders in municipal government.

II. Goals:

- Assist elders with property tax bills
- Increase elder involvement in municipal government
- Enhance municipal government through the use of skills and knowledge offered by local elders

III. Eligibility:

- 60 years or older at time of application
- Resident of Georgetown
- Property owner or spouse
- Occupy property for which abatement is requested
- Tax payments are current
- Can produce a copy of the most recent tax bill
- Limited to one \$500 abatement per household
- Willing and able to work
- Willing to supply references
- Agree to a CORI check
- An applicant will only be eligible to participate in the program for more than one year if an insufficient number of qualified applicants apply
- Applicants must certify that their income does not exceed the limits set by the Massachusetts Circuit Breaker Tax Credit (\$60,000 for a single person; \$90,000 married couple)

IV. Screening Process:

- Completed application submitted to the Georgetown Council on Aging Director
- Participants will be matched as closely as possible with a position based on qualifications, skills and the needs of the town department making the request for assistance. Each applicant has the opportunity to interview for placement, but there is no guarantee of placement.

- Should a particular town department have less than 45 hours of work to be performed, the participant should be willing to accept assignment in a different town department based on the needs of that department as well as the preferences and skills of the participant.
- Applicants have the right to refuse a placement.
- CORI check completed at the Georgetown Council on Aging
- Verification:
 - Age
 - Property ownership
 - Residency
- By lottery if the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of available openings in the program. Individuals not selected through the lottery will be placed on a waiting list and given first priority for the next year if the participant is still eligible and interested in the program.

V. Administration:

- The program shall be administered by the Council on Aging Director
- The COA Director shall survey town departments each year to determine what positions will be available
- The COA Director shall conduct interviews and match applicants as closely as possible with a position based on qualifications, skills and the needs of the town department making the request for assistance.
- The COA Director shall make recommendations for placement which must be approved by the respective town department.
- Applications will be available at the Council on Aging office during the month of December.
- At the completion of each year, participants and department heads will be surveyed regarding the effectiveness of the program.