

# LEARN MORE!

Hempstead Town Receiver of Taxes Don Clavin would be happy to speak at one of your department's upcoming meetings to help your membership start saving valuable tax dollars. To learn more about this and other exemptions for which members may qualify, as well as securing information on challenging your property tax assessment and taxpayer rights, schedule a mutually convenient date for Receiver Clavin to speak to your membership. Please send an email to [receiver@tohmail.org](mailto:receiver@tohmail.org) or call us at (516) 538-1500.



## Important Reminder

Residents should contact the Department of Assessment before changing the name on their deed or certificate of shares and before changing their primary residence, as the exemption status may be impacted.

## Filing Deadline

Applications must be postmarked or received by the Taxable Status Date of **January 2, 2020**.\*

\* For town, county and school district purposes only. Call your village for its filing deadline.

### Town of Hempstead Tax Office

(516) 538-1500  
[receiver@tohmail.org](mailto:receiver@tohmail.org)  
[www.hempsteadny.gov/receiver-of-taxes-office](http://www.hempsteadny.gov/receiver-of-taxes-office)

### Nassau County

#### Department of Assessment

(516) 571-1500  
[ncassessor@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:ncassessor@nassaucountyny.gov)  
[www.nassaucountyny.gov/1501/assessment](http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/1501/assessment)

### New York State Department of Taxation and Finance

(518) 457-2036  
[www.tax.ny.gov/star](http://www.tax.ny.gov/star)

The Hempstead Town Tax Office does not determine exemption eligibility. The information contained in this brochure is presented to the residents of the Town of Hempstead by the Receiver of Taxes for informational purposes only and is subject to change at any time without notice.

# Your Guide to VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS & AMBULANCE WORKERS EXEMPTION



Receiver of Taxes  
**Don Clavin**



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## The **Volunteer Firefighters & Ambulance Workers Exemption**

is a property tax reduction program for qualifying enrolled members of volunteer fire departments and volunteer ambulance service equaling 10 percent of the assessed value of the property. The exemption applies to municipal taxes as well as school taxes in those districts that have “opted in” to this program. Exemption calculations vary by assessing jurisdiction. Village residents are required to submit a separate application to their Village Clerk/ Assessor and inquire about filing deadline and requirements. For village tax purposes, where the property previously received the \$500 exemption authorized by Section 466 of the Real Property Tax Law, the minimum exemption is \$500.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

In order to qualify for this exemption, the following requirements must be met:

- Applicant must be an enrolled, certified member of an incorporated volunteer fire department or ambulance service for at least five years.
- Applicant must be listed on the deed as an owner and reside at the property.
- Property must be located in the municipality served by the volunteer fire department or ambulance service of which the applicant is an enrolled member.
- Property must be used exclusively for residential purposes and be the

primary residence of the applicant. If a portion of the property is not used exclusively for residential purposes, that portion is not entitled to exemption.

### **Filing Requirements**

In order to file for the Volunteer Firefighter & Ambulance Workers Exemption, you will need the following:

- Proof of Certification - Applicant must provide a Letter of Certification, which includes the exact date enrolled and current active status, on the volunteer fire department or ambulance service letterhead each year until reaching 20 years of service.
- Proof of Ownership – Copy of deed or certificate of shares or probated will of deceased owner.
- Proof of Residency – Driver’s license or car registration.

### **Cooperative Apartment Residents**

Volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers who are tenant-stockholders of a cooperative apartment corporation, and meet exemption eligibility requirements, may also apply for this property tax exemption. The volunteer member is entitled to receive an exemption amount applicable to the percentage of total assessed value of the entire parcel representing the tenant-stockholder’s percentage of ownership of the stock of the corporation.

## **Spouse of Deceased Volunteer Members**

The unremarried spouse of a deceased volunteer firefighter or ambulance service worker may continue to receive the exemption as long as the deceased volunteer had at least 20 years of service, or was killed in the line of duty, and had been receiving the exemption prior to his/ her death.

### **Renewal Information**

Renewal applications must be filed every year until the volunteer member reaches 20 years of service.

### **Lifetime Exemption**

Those with more than 20 years of service may qualify for a lifetime exemption, as long as he/she maintains a primary residence in a municipality that provides the exemption. Members with a lifetime exemption are not required to reapply each year.

### **Application**

An application can be downloaded from our website at [hempsteadny.gov/tax-exemptions/volunteer-firefighters-and-ambulance-corps](http://hempsteadny.gov/tax-exemptions/volunteer-firefighters-and-ambulance-corps) or requested by calling our office at (516) 538-1500.

