



STAR program

Need to register for the STAR credit? **NEW**

No need to call, register for STAR online.

Waiting for your STAR credit check? **NEW**

Don't register again if you've already registered; it will slow down the processing of your check. Do check your school tax bill. You're eligible for either the STAR credit or the STAR exemption, not both. If you received the STAR exemption on your school tax bill, then you're not eligible for the STAR check. For eligibility information, see **Register for STAR**.

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Free interpretation

What's new

There have been some changes in how certain homeowners will apply for STAR, and in how they receive their STAR benefit. The STAR Program continues to provide much-needed property tax relief to New York State's homeowners.

New applicants who qualify for Basic or Enhanced STAR

- You will register with New York State instead of applying with your assessor.
- You will receive a STAR credit in the form of a check, rather than receiving a property tax exemption (if you qualify for STAR). The dollar value of the credit will be the same as the property tax exemption.

New applicants who qualify for Enhanced STAR (or who will qualify in the future)

You do not need to register separately to receive the Enhanced benefit if you've already registered to receive the Basic benefit.

When you register for the STAR credit, the Tax Department will automatically review your application to determine whether you are eligible for the Basic or Enhanced STAR benefit amount.

If you

are receiving a STAR exemption and

then you

don't need to register; you will continue to

purchased your current home **prior to May 1, 2014**,

receive the STAR exemption.

To learn more, see STAR Exemption Program.

purchased your home **between May 1, 2014, and August 1, 2015**,

need to register to receive the STAR credit if:

- you bought your home after the 2015 STAR application deadline, or
- you did not apply for the STAR exemption for your home by the 2015 application deadline.

Otherwise, no action is necessary; you will continue to receive the STAR exemption.

purchased your home **after August 1, 2015**,

need to register for the STAR credit.

Types of STAR

Whether you receive the STAR exemption or the credit, there are two types of STAR benefits:

Basic STAR

- available for owner-occupied, primary residences where the resident owners' and their spouses' income is less than \$500,000
- based on the first \$30,000 of the full value of a home

Enhanced STAR

- provides an increased benefit for the primary residences of senior citizens (age 65 and older) with qualifying incomes (\$86,000 or less for the 2017-2018 school year)
- based on the first \$65,500 of the full value of a home (for the 2017-2018 school year)

The STAR benefit applies only to school district taxes. It doesn't apply to county, town or city taxes, except in the cities of New York, Buffalo, Rochester, Yonkers, and Syracuse. In those five cities, the exemption is applied partly to city taxes and partly to school taxes.

Note: Senior citizens receiving STAR may also be eligible for the senior citizens exemption. See Senior citizens exemption to learn more.

Eligibility

Your eligibility for Basic STAR depends on two factors: residency and income. Your eligibility for Enhanced STAR depends on those two factors, plus age. See STAR eligibility to see if you qualify.

Check your assessment

Assessment rolls list information for every property in a municipality. The assessment roll is required to be available from your municipal or county website within ten days of the tentative roll date (May 1 in most communities).

- Find your local assessment roll.
- Need a guide to understand your assessment roll? See [Overview of the assessment roll](#).

Your municipality's homepage should include a link to the assessment roll. If it doesn't, you should contact your assessor, city council or town board.

FAQs

Want to know more about the new STAR Credit Program? See our [Questions and answers for homeowners](#) to find answers to commonly asked questions.

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