

New Star Program Changes Announced!

New York State Dept. of Taxation & Finance has announced changes to the 2019 STAR Program. Property owners age 65 and over need to be aware of the following changes:

In order to receive the Enhanced STAR exemption, you must enroll in the Income Verification Program (IVP). Enrollment only has to be done once, and if you are eligible for the Enhanced STAR exemption, you will automatically receive it each year.

The IVP will ensure that individuals no longer meet renewal deadlines and will no longer have to provide income tax returns to their local assessor's office. ***If you are already receiving the Enhanced STAR exemption and are already enrolled in the IVP, you do not need to take any action.*** The NYS Tax Dept. will contact you directly if any additional information is needed.

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- ***If you are already receiving the Enhanced STAR exemption and are NOT enrolled in the IVP, you must renew your application for the Enhanced STAR and enroll in the IVP.***

In addition, individuals who qualify for the senior citizen exemption will no longer automatically receive the Enhanced STAR exemption. You must apply for the Enhanced STAR Exemption separately.

Individuals who are new homeowners or first time STAR applicants need to first register for the STAR credit with the NYS Tax Dept. instead of applying for the exemption. Additional information about the STAR credit can be obtained at www.tax.ny.gov/STAR (or by phone: (518) 457-2036).

In December, Town residents who currently receive the Enhanced Exemption will receive Form RP-425 RNW and RP-425 IVP. You must return both completed forms, plus a copy of your 2017 Federal 1040, Page 1, Income Tax form by March 1, 2019.

The Assessor's hours will begin on November 1st — Each Thursday evening, 5:30 PM till 9:00 PM.