

State of New Jersey

Department of the Treasury

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Mailing of Homestead Benefit Applications Begins

Filing Deadline for 'Senior Freeze' Applications Extended

The New Jersey Treasury will begin mailing homeowners their Homestead Benefit applications next week. Application packets will be mailed to approximately 1.5 million eligible homeowners over the next three weeks.

As it did last year, New Jersey will provide property tax relief through credits on property tax bills. Homeowners who meet the eligibility requirements will receive a partial credit for property taxes they paid for 2010 against their property tax bills for 2012.

The deadline for all homeowners to file is Oct. 31, 2011.

Under the budget proposed by Governor Chris Christie, New Jersey residents who owned a principal residence on Oct. 1, 2010, and paid property taxes on that home, will be eligible to receive the Homestead Benefit if they reported \$75,000 or less in New Jersey gross income for 2010, or if they are disabled or age 65 or older and had 2010 gross income of \$150,000 or less.

For more information on the Homestead Benefit Program, homeowners may call the Division of Taxation's Homestead Benefit Hotline at **1-888-238-1233** from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Homestead benefit information is also available on the Division's Web site at www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/2009homesteadinfo.shtml and through its Automated Tax Information System at **1-800-323-4400**. Text telephone service for the hearing impaired is

provided at **1-800-286-6613** or **609-984-7300**. Once they receive their applications, homeowners can file online at: www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/, or by phone by calling **1-877-658-2972**.

Homestead Benefit applications for 2010 are scheduled for delivery to homeowners as follows:

County	Delivery Expected to Begin
Camden, Hudson, Hunterdon, Salem, Somerset	June 4
Bergen, Burlington, Cumberland, Warren	June 7
Gloucester, Mercer, Middlesex, Passaic	June 9
Cape May, Union	June 11
Atlantic, Essex, Monmouth, Sussex	June 14
Morris, Ocean	June 16

Because it may take the U.S. Postal Service several days to deliver applications throughout each county, not every homeowner will receive an application on the day delivery is expected to begin. Homeowners are asked to wait at least a week following the expected delivery date for their county before calling the Division of Taxation to check on a missing application.

Homeowners who filed their 2009 Homestead Benefit applications online and indicated that they wanted to receive this year's application electronically will be sent an e-mail containing instructions for downloading their 2010 application packet at the same time the mailing of printed packets begins in early June.

The deadline for filing Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement) Program applications has been extended to Oct. 31. The Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement) and the Homestead Benefit are distinct property tax relief programs with different eligibility requirements and separate applications.

For information about the Senior Freeze Program, or to obtain an application, contact the Property Tax Reimbursement Hotline at **1-800-882-6597** from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Information is also available on the Division of Taxation's Web site at http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/propfrez.shtml