

## A NOTE TO OUR TOWN VETERANS



Dear Veteran,

We in Oyster Bay Town government want to make certain that all eligible veterans take advantage of the exemption from real property tax that is available to them. This brochure explains veterans property tax exemptions in the Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County, as determined by New York State law.

Please take a few moments to read the material in this brochure. We believe it will answer questions that you may have related to veterans' tax exemptions.

If you have additional questions, please call the office of Receiver of Taxes at 624-6400.

### How To Apply For An Alternative Exemption

A. Request an application from: Nassau County Board of Assessors, Veterans Exemption Division, 240 Old Country Road, 4th Floor, Mineola, NY 11501, 571-1500.

B. The following documents or certified copies must be presented:

1. Deed or certificate of shares.
2. Proof of Residence (driver's license, car registration, NYS Resident Income Tax Return; voter registration card; or SSA1099.
3. Form DD214, which you received on separation from the service, contains much of the information the assessor needs.
4. Other written documentation may help prove eligibility such as copy of discharge, orders awarding combat medals, VA documentation of disability, etc.
5. Where applicable, a letter from any municipality where previous exemption was granted stating that said exemption has been removed from the exempt and restored to the active assessment roll.

The Department of Assessment Veterans Division can advise you as to what is required and how to obtain the necessary documentation.

Town Supervisor  
**JOSEPH SALADINO**  
TOWN BOARD



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# Veterans Real Property Tax Exemption



**Town of Oyster Bay**

Town Supervisor  
**JOSEPH SALADINO**

Receiver of Taxes  
**JAMES J. STEFANICH**

[www.oysterbaytown.com](http://www.oysterbaytown.com)

## The Veterans Property Tax Exemption?

In Nassau County and the Town of Oyster Bay, all veterans applying for the first time for a Veterans Real Property Tax Exemption will receive an exemption based on the type of service they rendered to our country during wartime. This exemption is called the Alternative Veterans Exemption. Like the Eligible Funds Exemption it replaces, it applies to county and general municipal taxes, including village taxes (*if the village has opted in*). All veterans should contact the Assessor to see if they qualify for the Veterans Exemption for school taxes.

## Who is Eligible?

The Veterans Real Property Tax Exemption applies to all veterans who rendered active duty in the US Armed Forces during the Persian Gulf Conflict (*on or after August 2, 1990*); in Panama (Dec. 20, 1989 - Jan. 31, 1990); in Lebanon (June 1, 1983 - Dec. 1, 1987); In Grenada (Oct. 23, 1983 - Nov. 21, 1983); Vietnam War (*Feb. 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975*), Korean War (*June 27, 1950 - Jan. 31, 1955*), World War II (*Dec. 7, 1941 - Dec. 31, 1946*), World War I (*April 6, 1917 - Nov. 11, 1918*), the Mexican Border Period (*May 9, 1916 - April 5, 1917*); or the Spanish American War (April 21, 1898 - July 4, 1902).

Many merchant seamen who served during World War II are now eligible for this exemption. Also, some recipients of an Expeditionary Medal who served during a period of war, or in Lebanon, Grenada, or Panama, may be eligible.

Gold Star Parents, who are the parents of a

child who died in the line of duty while serving in the United States Armed forces during a period of war, are also eligible.

## How To Qualify For The Veterans Property Tax Exemption

In order to be exempt, the property in question must be owned by the veteran, his or her spouse or unremarried surviving spouse. If there is no unremarried surviving spouse, the veteran's surviving dependent mother, father or minor children may also be eligible under certain conditions.

The property must be used for residential purposes and must be the primary residence of the eligible applicant unless that person is absent from the property due to medical reasons or is institutionalized.

## What Benefits Are Granted?

For service during war time, an exemption equal to 15% of your assessment is available. For service in a combat area, an additional 10% exemption is available. Each of these exemptions is available to qualified veterans from the time eligibility begins.

Another exemption of one-half the disability rating is granted for a service-related disability that is certified by the U.S. Veterans Administration or the Department of Defense. If a disability is not certified as permanent, the applicant must submit a renewal application to the Assessor each year. This exemption lasts as long as your disability does. *Please note: All exemptions are subject to a ceiling.*

## "Eligible Funds Exemptions" For Veterans Will Continue

Recipients of the Eligible Funds Exemption may continue to receive it for as long as they remain eligible. However, you have the option to switch to the Alternative Veterans Exemption if the new law would be more beneficial.

It should be noted that if you switch to the Alternative Exemption Law, you cannot switch back to the Eligible Funds Law unless you move to another area within New York State which has decided not to provide the Alternative Exemption.

If you are now receiving an Eligible Funds Exemption, you may continue to add to it by filing supplemental applications.

## How To Apply For A Veterans Exemption

Applications must be filed by January 2nd as prescribed by state law. For information on filing of applications in incorporated villages or cities, contact your local village or city assessor.

## Cold War

Veterans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the Cold War period between September 2, 1945 and December 26, 1991.

The exemption reduces the assessed value of your primary residence before the tax rate is applied. There are two levels of benefits:

- 15 percent of the assessed value or current Nassau County cap of \$124, depending on whichever is lower. This benefit is limited to 10 years.
- Additional benefit to disabled veterans (equal to one-half of their service-connected disability).