



OFFICE OF THE ASSESSOR

TOWN OF LEICESTER

3 WASHBURN SQUARE • LEICESTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01524-1333
TELEPHONE: (508) 892-7001 • FAX: (508) 892-7070

Linda Berisha, MAA
Principal Assessor
berishal@leicesterma.org

Arthur J. Paquette
Paul C. Davis
Robert P. Pingeton

Sarah Morin
Office Assistant
morins@leicesterma.org

Senior Tax Work-Off Program

Program goals/ Program Benefits:

- To assist eligible senior citizens and disabled veterans in meeting their obligation to pay property tax bill.
- Maximum benefit will be \$750.00 per household. The program is funded for 20 participants.
- Senior Tax Work-Off Program, eligible participants work between January and November in exchange for a property tax credit.
- Abatement credit will be issued on January 1 bill of the year following work off completion.
- The tax credit will be based on minimum wage, which is \$15.00 per hour 50 hours must be completed.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Any taxpayer age 60 + as of January 1st
- Must be the homeowner or current spouse of homeowner
- Must own and occupy the property for which Leicester taxes are paid. If property is held in Trust, a copy of Trust and Schedule of Beneficiaries.
- Must be able to submit to and pass a CORI
- Must fill out and sign tax write-off application and all required documents/forms
- Must document, complete and sign record of hours worked
- If more than one eligible taxpayer lives in the home, they may share hours. Only one (1) tax credit per family per calendar year is allowed.

Selection Process/Job Opportunities:

- Job Placement:
- Available positions will be determined by department heads
- Applicants will be interviewed by the Department Heads before approval is complete

- Applicants will be placed within municipal departments
- All applications and all forms must be completed and submitted to the Assessor's office prior to applicant's position starting date.
- Priority for program participation will be determined based on income and to applicants who have not yet participated in the Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off.
- Individuals previously chosen for the program may make re-application. No applicant is guaranteed a position. Prior participants in the program who are trained in or familiar with specific tasks may be given subsequent priority. A lottery system may be used if there are more applicants than available position.
- A Certificate of completion form must be submitted from the supervisor to the to the Assessor's office.

When submitting applications, the following verification will be required:

- Proof of age (i.e., birth certificate, passport, or driver's license)
- Proof of residency (Most recent property tax bill)
- All income sources: (Social Security, SSDI, SSI, Wages, compensation, Pensions, Retirement income, Prior year's federal tax return)
- Can not accept application without income verification.

*Abatement Details

Participants in the program, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 59 §5K, are considered employees for federal and state income tax purposes. Senior Tax Work-off Program" as outlined in Massachusetts General Laws; Part I; Title IX; Chapter 59; Section 5K of the acts of 1999. Taxpayers may earn abatements under the work-off program in addition to any property tax exemptions they may be eligible for under other statutes, such as personal exemptions under G.L. Ch. 59 ss5 or residential exemptions under G.L. Ch. 59 ss5C.

Dept. Head Interviews: November

*Applicants are informed if they have been
officially selected: December 1*

*Participant employment paperwork is due:
December 16*

*Participant work begins: January 1 (work may
start on subsequent dates based on
departmental needs)*

Participant work ends: November 30

Sincerely,

Linda Berisha
Principal Assessor