

Colorado Property Tax for Disabled Veterans and Gold Star Spouses FAQs

When can I apply for the exemption?

January 1-July 1 of any given year.

Can I apply anytime of the calendar year?

Colorado Statue Title 39 advises applications can be received January 1-July 1.

Do I have to reapply every year?

Once the application has been approved, the veteran will NOT be required resubmit an application until they move to a new property.

If I apply between July 1 and January 1 of a given year, will you just hold the application until January 1?

Applications are not retained. Any application that has been received between July 1 and January 1 will be shredded, once a letter has been generated for the applicant. The letter will be mailed to the property on the application.

How do I submit my application on January 1 if it's a Weekend or Federal holiday?

There is an option to submit the application via fax.

Do I qualify if I am being paid at 100% for unemployability?

No, the definition in the Colorado Statue Title 39 Defines a Qualifying Disabled Veteran as Honorable discharge and 100% service connect permeant rating with the VA or the veteran must be honorable discharge 100% service connected permeant and medically separated from their branch of service.

Do I need to do anything with the questions that do not apply to me?

The applicant can notate NA or draw a single line through the response section.

Can I submit my application by email?

Not unless it is stated on the application or in the instructions.

What do I need to Submit in the application packet?

- *A Complete Application*
- *VA Benefit Summary Letter or your Medical Separation Letter from a Branch of Service.*
- *A **current** Department of Defense Letter stating you lost your spouse in active duty.*

Do I need to submit a DD-214, my driver's license, social security card, tax statement, birth certificate, marriage license etc?

No, the only required documents are:

- *A Complete Application*

- *VA Benefit Summary Letter or your Medical Separation Letter from a Branch of Service.*

Where do I submit the application packet?

To the location stated on the top right-hand box of the application.

Both my spouse and I are Qualified Disable Veterans do we both need to apply? Will we qualify for two exemptions on the same property?

Only one spouse can receive the exemption. Also, if the veteran is receiving the Senior Citizen's Exemption they will not qualify for an increase in the exempted amount of taxes. A property can only have one exemption at a given time.

Do I have to be a Colorado Resident to receive the tax exemption, or can I receive the tax exemption on my second home?

The veteran must be a Colorado resident living and paying income taxes in Colorado to receive the exemption. Only one exemption can be used by any person.

My deceased spouse received the exemption before they passed how do I apply for the surviving spouse exemption?

Complete the Surviving Spouse application and submit it to your County Tax Assessor.

I moved and my deceased spouse received the exemption before they passed how do I reapply?

Unfortunately, the surviving spouse will not qualify for the exemption once they sell the property. If the spouse is a Qualified Disabled Veteran they can apply during the January 1-July 1 timeframe, as long as they have lived in the new property on January 1 of the year the veteran is applying.

I remarried and my deceased spouse received the exemption before they passed do, I still qualify.

Unfortunately, the spouse is not able to remarry and receive the exemption.

- *If the spouse is a Qualified Disabled Veteran, they can reapply January 1- July 1.*
- *If the spouse is not a Qualified Disabled Veteran but is over the age of 65 and has owned the home for over 10 years they can apply for the Senior Citizen Exemption which is also included in the Homestead Act.*

I am the veteran with Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption, but my former spouse has taken possession of our house in the separation, how do I notify the county?

Notify your County Tax Assessor.

Do I have to include social security numbers for my dependents or for myself?

Yes, it is on the application as it is required information.

Do I have to list all my dependents?

Yes, you need to list all the dependents who live at this property, it is on the application as it is required information.

How do I fill out 5A if I am not married and live alone?

You can write in NA or draw a line through the blank space.

You do not need to add the applicant to this section.

The VA letter has a back date of ... do I qualify for reimbursement from the taxes I have paid?

No, the exemption is not retroactive.

I just bought the house after January 1 of this year do I qualify?

- *The Veteran must own the home on January 1 of the year they are applying*
- *Or the veteran can qualify if the property has been owned by the veteran or the spouse of the veteran and both the veteran and the spouse live at this primary residence since January 1 of the year the veteran applies. Primary residence is where the veteran lives 51% of the year.*

I just bought a new house does the exemption transfer to the new house?

A new application will need to be submitted between January 1 and July 1, of the year the veteran has lived in the house on January 1.

Do I qualify if I am a renter?

No the applicant must own the property.

What does “Statement 3A would be true if not for the fact that ownership has been transferred to a trust, corporate partnership or other legal entity solely for estate planning purposes” mean?

Is the property in a trust, corporate partnership or legal entity?

- *If no, then mark no*
- *If yes, completed form with the information. You may include your legal documents with your application.*

What does, “Statement 4A would be true if not for the fact that I am confined to a hospital, nursing home, or assisted living facility mean?

Are you currently living in a hospital, nursing home or assisted living facility?

- *If no, then mark no*
- *If yes, completed form with the information. You may include your legal documents with your application.*

When does the exemption take effect, and do I see the discount on my statement?

- *The exemption process can take several months to complete as the application moves through various government entities.*

- *Since Colorado pays taxes in arrears the year you are accepted is the tax year you will receive the discount so if you are approved in 2022 you will see the discount on your 2022 taxes to be paid in 2023. Because of the Colorado Open Rights Act the counties will send recipients statements with the discount already accounted for. This will not be marked as line item.*
- *If you would like to learn more details on your property taxes please contact your county tax assessor, as taxes vary between counties, cities, schools districts etc., your county tax assessor will have the most current information.*

Briefly explain the application process.

1. *The applicant submits the Property tax application.*
2. *The county reviews the application.*
3. *The state reviews the applications*
4. *The Department of Revenue reviews the application*
5. *The applicant either is granted or denied the exemption.*