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# *HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION*

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## How the Homestead Exemption Program Can Reduce Your Property Tax Bill

### What is the Benefit?

In 2007, the SC Legislature passed legislation that completely exempts from your tax bill all taxes levied for school operating purposes on the value of your legal resident. The Homestead Exemption cred continues to completely exempt the value of \$50,000 for all purposes (Already exempted by the new 2007 Legislation).

Your County Auditor, Donna W. Lominack, administers the Homestead Exemption Program at the County Level. Questions regarding eligibility status and application procedures should be directed to your County Auditor.

### Do I qualify for the Homestead Exemption Program?

You may qualify if you are.....

- ✚ Age 65 on or before December 31, preceding the tax year in which you wish to claim the exemption;
- ✚ Totally and permanently disabled;
- ✚ Legally Blind;
- ✚ The surviving spouse of qualifying applicant.

### Applicants Must Be

A legal resident of South Carolina for at least one year on or before December 31, preceding the year for which the exemption is claimed.

### AND

Hold fee simple title or partial title to your house or mobile home or certain life estates or other proper titles.

## **How Do I Apply for the Homestead Exemption Program?**

Application may be made at any time of the year, at the Newberry County Auditor's Office. We normally make appointments in January and February of each year to help serve our taxpayers more efficient since this is the busiest time of year for Homestead Applications.

### **When Applying You Must Submit the Following:**

- ✚ Proof of Residency, such as your SC driver's license, SC identification card, or SC Resident Tax Return;
  - ✚ Social Security Card or Medicare Card;
  - ✚ Proof of age such as birth certificate or SC driver's license;
- ✚ If you are applying because of disability or blindness, you must submit your certification indicating the original award date from the State or Federal Agency that had authority to make the declaration.

### **For Additional Information you may call:**

**Melinda Long**

**Newberry County Deputy Auditor**

**803-321-2105**

**Email: [mlong@newberrycounty.net](mailto:mlong@newberrycounty.net)**

### **Other Assistance:**

In addition to the Homestead Exemption Program, there are other services and programs available to qualified individuals. To find out more, contact:

Department of Health and Human Services – Office of Aging  
PO Box 8206  
Columbia SC 29201  
803-253-6100  
Email: [www.scdhhs.gov](http://www.scdhhs.gov)

The South Carolina Joint Legislative Committee on Aging assists the senior community with problems and introduces legislation to correct inequities in the law. To find out more, contact:

Office of the Lt. Governor  
803-734-9900 or 1-800-868-9995