

**THE TOWN OF GROTON
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

***PROPERTY TAX & RENT RELIEF
FOR THE ELDERLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED
AND
VETERANS EXEMPTIONS***

In Partnership With The Groton Community

EFFECTIVE FOR FILINGS IN 2016 – ALL PROGRAMS BASED ON CT RESIDENCY

HOMEOWNER AID FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED

Property tax credits up to \$1,250 (married) or \$1,000 (single) are available based on a graduated income scale. You may be eligible if:

- Owner or spouse is 65 by December 31, 2015 or older -OR-
- Owner is the widow/widower age 50 or older of a previously approved applicant -OR-
- Owner is totally disabled receiving retirement benefits under requirements comparable to those of Social Security.

Property must have been owned October 1 previous to and at the time of filing an application.

Income limits are determined each fall. Income is: ***income from all sources, including tax-exempt interest and social security.*** For 2016 applicants, 2015 income from all sources may not exceed **\$42,900** (married) or **\$35,200** (single).

Individuals who receive state supplementary income, energy assistance, or property tax exemptions may be eligible.

Applications must be filed with the Groton Assessor's Office between February 1 and May 13.

After the initial application is accepted, biennial filing is necessary to continue receiving benefits.

For further information contact the Groton Assessor's Office at **860-441-6660**.

**PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR
BLIND OR TOTALLY DISABLED PERSONS**

Connecticut law provides for a \$3,000 property tax exemption for persons who are legally blind. ***Proof of blindness by a qualified medical practitioner must be presented to the Groton Assessor prior to January 31.*** Connecticut law also provides a \$1,000 property tax exemption for persons who are receiving benefits from the Social Security Administration for total and permanent disability. Totally disabled persons receiving retirement or disability benefits maintaining requirements comparable to those of the Social Security Administration may also be eligible for this exemption. ***Proof of total disability must be presented to the Groton Assessor prior to January 31.***

Homeowners that are totally disabled may also apply for benefits under the state's program of tax relief, regardless of age. The requirements for this program are listed above.

For more information, call the Assessor's Office at **860-441-6660**.

TAX RELIEF FOR RENTERS

A person renting a room or an apartment; or living in cooperative housing or a mobile home may be eligible for a partial refund of rent and/or utility bills, excluding cable and telephone, if:

- Renter or their spouse is 65 or older, or is the widow/widower age 50 or older of a previously approved applicant
- OR-
- Renter is totally disabled and receiving retirement benefits under requirements comparable to those of Social Security

Income limits are determined each fall. Income is ***income from all sources, including tax-exempt interest and social security.*** For 2016 applicants, 2015 income from all sources may not exceed **\$42,900** (married) or **\$35,200** (single).

Rebates are granted when 35% of annual rent and utilities exceeds 5% of income.

Renters may receive social security, energy assistance, federal supplementary security income, pension income, veteran benefits, disability benefits or subsidized housing accommodations; but may not receive financial aid or subsidy from federal, state or local funds.

Applications must be filed annually between April 1 and October 1 with Groton Human Services at 2 Fort Hill Rd. Call the department of Human Services at 860-441-6760 for more information.

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR VETERANS

Basic Program

Connecticut law provides for a \$1,500 assessment exemption for veterans who are honorably discharged after actively serving at least 90 days during a period of conflict. ***An original or certified copy of his/her honorable discharge (DD-214) must be filed in the Groton Land Records prior to October 1.***

Veterans who maintain a disability rating from the VA of at least 10% are entitled to an increased exemption. Depending on the disability rating and income level.

Additional Programs

Veterans meeting certain income requirements are eligible for an additional exemption. Income limits are determined each fall. Income is: income from all sources, including tax-exempt interest and social security. For 2016 applicants to the **state program**, 2015 income from all sources may not exceed **\$42,900** (married) or **\$35,200** (single). For 2016 applicants to the town's local program, 2015 income from all sources may not exceed **\$67,900** (married) or **\$60,200** (single). Veterans with a 100% disability rating have to meet different income requirements based on adjusted gross income. This exemption may also be granted to the unmarried surviving spouse, minor child, or sole surviving parent of an unmarried deceased vet if they meet the applicable income requirements.

Applications must be filed biennially with the Assessor's Office between February 1 and October 1. Proof of income for the previous calendar year is required when filing such an application.