

PTAX-342-R Annual Verification of Eligibility for Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption

Read this first

To continue to receive Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption (DVSHE), you must file Form PTAX-342-R each year with your Chief County Assessment Officer (CCAO). Failure to do so may result in the termination of the exemption. Your service-connected disability must be certified by the Illinois Department of Veteran Affairs (IDVA).

Note: Only an **un-remarried**, surviving spouse of a disabled veteran can continue to receive the DVSHE provided the spouse has legal or beneficial title to the property. A surviving spouse that remarries no longer qualifies for the DVSHE.

Step 1: Complete the following information

1 _____
Property owner's name

Street address of homestead property

City

State

ZIP

(_____) _____ - _____
Daytime phone

2 Check **one** statement that applies.

a _____ Disabled veteran that currently has a 50% to 74% service-connected disability.

b _____ Disabled veteran that currently has at least 75% service-connected disability. If this is an increase from the prior year, you must submit documentation verifying the increase.

c _____ **Un-remarried**, surviving spouse of a disabled veteran.

3 Assessment year for which you are requesting the DVSHE: _____
Township: _____

4 Did you receive the DVSHE for the prior assessment year on this property? Yes No

If **"Yes"**, check the amount of the DVSHE.
 \$2,500 EAV reduction \$5,000 EAV reduction

5 Write the property index number (PIN) of the property for which you receive the exemption listed on your property tax bill. You may obtain it from your CCAO. If you are unable to obtain your PIN, write the legal description on Line b.

a PIN _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

b Write the legal description only if you are unable to obtain your PIN. Attach a separate sheet if needed.

Step 2: Complete the following as it applies to the property and assessment year you identified in Step 1

5 Is this the only property for which you have applied for a homestead exemption? Yes No

6 On January 1, were you the owner of the property? Yes No
If **"No,"** on January 1 did you lease the property? Yes No

7 On January 1, did you occupy this property as your principal residence? Yes No
If **"No,"** **a** were you a resident of a facility licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act? Yes No
b was this property occupied by your spouse or did it remain unoccupied? Yes No

8 Are you liable for the payment of real estate taxes? Yes No

Step 3: Sign below

I state that to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this application is true, correct, and complete.

Property owner's or authorized representative's signature

_____/_____/_____
Date

What is the Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption (DVSHE)?

The Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption (35 ILCS 200/15-169) provides an annual reduction in the equalized assessed value (EAV) of a primary residence occupied by a disabled veteran on January 1 of the assessment year. The DVSHE amount depends on the percentage of the service-connected disability as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs. A disabled veteran with at least a 75% service-connected disability will receive a \$5,000 reduction in property's EAV. A disabled veteran with at least 50%, but less than 75% service-connected disability will receive a \$2,500 reduction in property's EAV.

Who is eligible?

To qualify for the DVSHE, the disabled veteran must

- be an Illinois resident who served as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty or state active duty, Illinois National Guard, or U.S. Reserve Forces, and not dishonorably discharged.
 - have at least a 50% service-connected disability certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs; and
 - own and occupy the property as the primary residence on January 1 of the assessment year or lease and occupy a single family residence on January 1 of the assessment year and be liable for the payment of the property taxes to the county.
- Note:** The property's total EAV must be less than \$250,000 after subtracting any portion used for commercial purposes. "Commercial purposes" include any portion of the property rented for more than 6 months.

Is a surviving spouse eligible?

An **un-remarried** surviving spouse of a disabled veteran can continue to receive the DVSHE on his or her spouse's primary residence or transfer the DVSHE to another primary residence after the disabled veteran's original primary residence is sold, provided the DVSHE had previously been granted to the disabled veteran.

An **un-remarried** surviving spouse must occupy and hold legal or beneficial title to the primary residence on January 1 of the assessment year.

Form PTAX-342, Application for Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption, must be submitted if you are an **un-remarried** surviving spouse of a disabled veteran applying for the first time or transferring the DVSHE. You must also provide the disabled veteran's marriage and death certificates and proof of ownership.

Do I need to provide documentation?

Your CCAO may require documentation to verify your eligibility. Documentation may include a disability award or verification letter from

the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs for the current assessment year with one of the following documents that is the original or a copy certified by the county recorder, recorder of deed's, Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs, or the National Archives Record Center.

- Form DD 214 or separation of service from the War Department (military service prior to 1950); or
- Certification of Military Service Form.

When will I receive my exemption?

The year you apply for the DVSHE is referred to as the assessment year. The County Board of Review, while in session for the assessment year, has the final authority to grant your DVSHE. If granted, your DVSHE will be applied to the property tax bill paid the year following the assessment year.

When and where do I file my Form PTAX-342-R?

To continue to receive this exemption on your residence, you must file Form PTAX-342-R, Annual Verification of Eligibility for Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption, each year with your CCAO. Contact your CCAO at the address and phone number below for assistance and filing information with your county.

Chief County Assessment Office
18 North County Street - 7th Floor
Waukegan, Illinois 60085

If you have any questions, call (847) 377-2050

Are there other homestead exemptions available for disabled persons or disabled veterans?

Yes. However, only one of the following disabled homestead exemptions may be claimed on your property for a single assessment year:

- **Disabled Veterans' Homestead Exemption** - up to \$70,000 reduction in assessed value for federally-approved specially adapted housing. This exemption is administered by the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs. (35 ILCS 200/15-165);
- **Disabled Persons' Homestead Exemption** - annual \$2,000 reduction in property's EAV (35 ILCS 200/15-168); or
- **Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption** - annual \$2,500 or \$5,000 reduction in property's EAV (35 ILCS 200/15-169).

Official use. Do not write in this space.

Date received: ____/____/____

Board of review action date: ____/____/____

Verify proof of eligibility _____

- Approved
 Denied

Exemption amount

- \$2,500 \$5,000

Reason for denial _____

Assessment information

EAV of improvements	\$ _____
EAV of land	\$ _____
Total EAV of improvement/land	\$ _____
EAV commercial/rented property	\$ _____
Total EAV minus commercial/rented EAV	\$ _____

Comments: _____

Note: An EAV of \$250,000 or more, excluding commercial property or portion of the property rented for more than 6 months does not qualify for DVSHE.