

TOWN OF MARBLEHEAD

COUNCIL ON AGING

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2024 SENIOR CITIZEN PROPERTY TAX WORK-OFF ABATEMENT

The purpose of this program is to allow participating senior taxpayers to volunteer their services to the Town in exchange for a reduction in their Fiscal Year 2025 property tax bills. Marblehead services will be enhanced by utilizing the skills of town senior citizens.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Must be age 60 years or more
- Must be owner (or spouse of owner) and occupy the Marblehead residence for which the abatement will apply
- Income must not exceed \$51,528 for a senior household of one person or \$69,824 for a senior household of two
- Only one volunteer abatement per household per year
- Applicants must submit their (2023) 1040 tax return for verification

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- There will be up to 30 participant openings for the 2024 Tax Work-off period
- Volunteer positions are offered to all town departments, but not all departments have openings
- Openings may be available in classrooms, libraries, offices, lunchrooms, etc.

TIMING AND TAX REDUCTIONS:

- Applications will be accepted at the MHD COA, Judy & Gene Jacobi Center, 10 Humphrey Street, from December 19, 2023 through January 19, 2024. After Jan. 19, 2024 applications will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis until all positions are filled
- The rate will be credited at the state minimum wage per hour worked (\$15.00 per hour in 2024). A *maximum of* \$750 will be credited to the participant's FY 2025 real estate tax bill.
- Department head where senior is placed will verify the number of hours worked
- The approved record of hours must be submitted to the COA before October 14, 2024
- The Town will issue a W-2 form (for federal income tax purposes) and a statement of credit to all participants
- Credits will be applied to the last two quarters of property tax bills (February and May, 2025)

SELECTION:

- Applicant, department head, and COA Director must agree on placement
- Applicant must pass a C.O.R.I. check and complete town-wide Conflict of Interest training
- Placement will be offered on the basis of qualification, availability, location, and physical limitation
- If there are more applicants than openings, acceptance will be based on both financial need and the suitability of an available placement, including but not limited to skill sets, customer service, and prior experience
- Information on other forms of tax relief is available at the COA; specific questions can be addressed to the Tax Assessor's office, 7 Widger Rd., Marblehead

APPLICATION: Application forms are available online at <u>https://www.marblehead.org/council-</u> <u>aging/pages/property-tax-abatement-program/</u> or through the Marblehead Council on Aging, Judy & Gene Jacobi Community Center, 10 Humphrey Street, Marblehead MA 01945