

PRESS RELEASE
ULSTER COUNTY ASSESSORS ASSOCIATION
ISSUED - NOVEMBER 8, 2013
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SUBJECT-BASIC STAR REGISTRATION

The Ulster County Assessors Association would like remind all property owners who received the Basic Star Exemption on their 2013 School Taxes, that they need to Re-register directly with the state prior to December 31, 2013, in order to continue receiving the benefits of the exemption. If a property owner does not re-register they will lose the benefit of the exemption effective for the 2014 School taxes.

This Re-Registration program only applies to property owners who are receiving the Basic Star Exemption. If you are receiving the Enhanced Star Exemption you will file a renewal application directly with your local assessor prior to March 1, 2014. Assessors will mail out renewal exemption applications to these property owners by the end of the year. If you are currently receiving the Basic Star Exemption and will be 65 years of age by December 31, 2014 you may be eligible for the Enhanced Star Exemption and you should contact your local assessor.

Property owners are only eligible for the Star Exemption on their primary residence. The Re-Registration program was adopted as part of the 2013 New York State Budget. The intent of this program is to insure that all property owners who receive the benefit of the exemption are entitled to it.

All property owners should have received notification from the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance explaining the process to re-register. This letter included a Star Re-Registration. If a property owner has not received their notice from the state, you can contact them and re-register by one of two ways. You can do it by email at www.tax.ny.gov and "Click on Re-Register for Star "or you can contact them by phone at 1-518-457-2036.

All property owners who have not re-registered by December 1, 2013 will receive a second notice from the state by the end of December. You must Re-register directly with the state and not your local assessor. If you are a new homeowner and are applying for the exemption for the first time you need to file an exemption directly with your assessor.

If any property owner has difficulties in Re-Registering for the Basic Star Exemption or has any questions about the Star Exemption in general they should contact their local assessor.

Also please beware of solicitations offering a fee-based service to apply for the School Tax Relief (STAR) property tax exemption. The Ulster County Assessor's Association encourages any homeowner not receiving a STAR exemption to apply on their own and avoid disingenuous schemes that seek to charge you for the tax relief that is rightfully yours, by contacting your local assessor