Homestead Exemption Explanation

Frankfort, KY (Nov. 14, 2024) - The Kentucky Department of Revenue (DOR) has set the maximum homestead exemption at \$49,100 for the 2025 and 2026 tax periods. By statute, the amount of the homestead exemption is recalculated every two years to adjust for inflation. The 2025-2026 exemption reflects a \$2,750 increase over the 2023–2024 exemption of \$46,350.

To qualify for the homestead exemption, a person must be at least 65 years old during the tax period or classified as totally disabled by any public or private retirement system. The property must also be owned, occupied and maintained as the taxpayer's personal residence on the January 1 assessment date to be eligible for this exemption.

"The last two years have presented many challenges, as together we have faced a worldwide health pandemic and endured two major natural disasters," Gov. Andy Beshear said. "The tax savings available through the homestead exemption is an important way we can help protect the homes of our seniors and other vulnerable Kentuckians."

The amount of the homestead exemption is adjusted every two years in accordance with KRS 132.810 to compensate for changes in the purchasing power of the dollar. During the 2023 tax year, the exemption provided state and local property tax savings of approximately \$293 million for more than 474,000 elderly or disabled Kentuckians.

"Through the homestead exemption, eligible Kentucky homeowners can deduct a portion of their property's assessed value," said DOR Commissioner Thomas B. Miller. "As a result, property taxes are assessed upon the reduced amount, saving eligible Kentucky homeowners hundreds of dollars in property taxes."

An application for the homestead exemption is available on <u>DOR's website</u>. This application must be completed and submitted to the property owner's local Property Valuation Administrator's (PVA) office no later than December 31 of the eligible tax year. The completed application can be submitted online, by mail or in person. Eligible property owners should contact their PVA's office to learn the best method to use for local application submission.