

# HOMESTEAD

## EXEMPTION APPLICATION

**Note: Forms filed after April 1st of any year will apply to the subsequent year tax assessment.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) (middle) (last)

Homestead Street Location: # \_\_\_\_\_ Street Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If different from above)

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

1. I am a legal resident of the State of Maine Yes or No
2. I declare this house is my permanent place of residence and the *ONLY* property I claim as a **HOMESTEAD**. Yes or No  
(Summer camps, vacation homes and or second residences **do not** qualify.)
3. I have owned this property since: (date on deed) **Month** \_\_\_\_\_ **Day** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year** \_\_\_\_\_
- 3a. My permanent residency here began: **Month** \_\_\_\_\_ **Day** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year** \_\_\_\_\_
4. 12 months added to the more recent of the two dates above would be:  
**Month** \_\_\_\_\_ **Day** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year** \_\_\_\_\_
- 4a. The next April 1st date coming after the date above would be: **April 1**, \_\_\_\_\_.
5. **I understand that to qualify I must have resided and owned a home in Maine for 12 continuous months.** Yes or No
6. If you own, or have owned, a primary residence prior to this home, please list:
  - a. Town: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Did you claim a Homestead Exemption there? Yes or No
  - c. Do you continue to claim an Homestead Exemption there? Yes or No
  - d. Timeframe of the prior ownership:
    1. Date Purchased: **Month** \_\_\_\_\_ **Day** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year** \_\_\_\_\_
    2. Date Sold: **Month** \_\_\_\_\_ **Day** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year** \_\_\_\_\_
7. Are you a registered *voter* in Ellsworth? Yes or No
8. Do you pay your vehicle *excise tax* in Ellsworth? Yes or No
9. The primary residence on my *Driver's License* is Ellsworth? Yes or No
10. The primary residence on my *Hunting and or Fishing License* is Ellsworth? Yes or No  
(if you circled NO to questions 7,8,9, or 10, please explain on back of this form)

*I do hereby declare, that the answers to the above are true, correct and complete and I understand that providing false information is a criminal offense. I do hereby also declare that when and or if I cease or discontinue my permanent residency at this home, I will contact the Assessor to discontinue this exemption.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(only one signature required)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# **INSTRUCTIONS**

Complete your Name, Street location (of Homestead Property), Mailing Address and phone.

**Question 1 & 2**-must be answered **Yes** to qualify for the Maine Homestead Exemption program.

**Question 3 & 3a**-require a date for ownership and permanent residency.

**Question 4**-requires that you add 12 months to the date of permanent residency. *The 12 months must be continuous prior to April 1st of a qualifying tax year. If your permanent residency has not fulfilled the 12 month period prior to April 1st, we will process any eligible applications for the following tax year.*

**Question 5**-please circle either **Yes** or **No**.

**Question 6**-requires you to complete this section if you have previously owned a primary residence.

**Questions 7, 8, 9 & 10**-please answer by circling either **Yes** or **No** and explain below if you have answered any of the questions **No**.

7. \_\_\_\_\_.

8. \_\_\_\_\_.

9. \_\_\_\_\_.

10. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Signature:** Please sign and date your application before submitting it to the Assessor's Office.

## **DEFINITIONS** (36 MSRA Section 681. Definitions)

As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

**Name/Applicant:** *"Applicant"* means an individual who has applied for a Homestead property tax exemption.

**Homestead:** *"Homestead"* means any residential property in the State of Maine assessed as real property owned by the applicant or held in a revocable living trust for the benefit of the applicant and occupied by the applicant as the applicant's permanent residence. A "homestead" does not include any real property used solely for commercial purposes.

**Permanent resident:** *"Permanent resident"* means an individual who has established a permanent residence.

**Permanent residence:** *"Permanent residence"* means that place where an individual has a true fixed and permanent home and a principal establishment to which the individual, whenever absent, has the intention of returning. An individual may have only one permanent residence at a time and, once a permanent residence is established, that residence is presumed to continue until circumstances indicate otherwise.

***City of Ellsworth***

*Please do not hesitate to call if you should have any questions regarding this form.  
Assessors Office: 667-8674*