

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. 12 months added to the date above would be **Month** _____ **Day** _____ **Year** _____
4. The next April 1st date coming after the date above in 3a would be: **April 1**, _____.
5. **I understand that to qualify I must have owned a home in Maine for the 12 preceding months and it must be my permanent residence.** Yes or No
6. If you own, or have owned, a permanent 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 a 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. I file a Maine Resident Income Tax Return? Yes or No
8. Do you register your vehicle(s) in Ellsworth? Yes or No
9. The primary residence on my *Driver's License* is Ellsworth? Yes or No
10. Are you a registered *voter* in 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: _____ Date: _____
(only one signature required)

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