

# WHAT ARE THE CHANGES?

Beginning this year, recipients of the STAR credit program may see their savings increase by as much as 2 percent each year; however, there will be no increase for those who participate in the STAR exemption program. If you currently receive your STAR benefit as a reduction on your school tax bill (the STAR exemption), you may receive a greater benefit if you switch to the STAR credit.

**START HERE**



Are you a part of the STAR program?

YES

**NO:** New homeowners/ first-time STAR applicants should apply here: [www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/default.htm](http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/default.htm)

Do you receive a direct reduction on your school tax bill?

YES

**You are part of the STAR Exemption Program.**  
Does your household make more than \$250,000?

YES

**You are no longer eligible for the STAR exemption.**  
However, the Tax Department automatically registered affected homeowners into the STAR Credit Program.  
All affected homeowners will receive a letter from the Tax Department.

For more information, please visit [www.tax.ny.gov/star/](http://www.tax.ny.gov/star/) or call the STAR Hotline at 518-457-2036.

NO

Do you want more money?

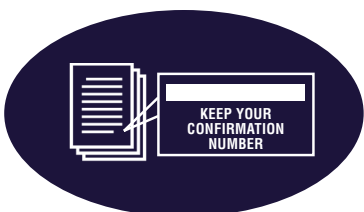
YES

**Switch to the STAR credit program!**

The Department of Tax and Finance has created a one-step process of registering you for the Credit and notifying the assessor that you no longer want the exemption.

NO

You do not need to take any action at this time



Do you have internet access?

**Yes:** visit: [www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/default.htm](http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/default.htm) to register for the STAR credit program. Make sure to print a copy of the confirmation page and note your confirmation number!

**No:** Applications should be available at your local town hall, village hall or county building, or you can contact the state Department of Taxation and Finance's STAR hotline from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by calling (518) 457-2036.



**Marjorie Byrnes**  
ASSEMBLYWOMAN

## Basic STAR

- ★ Available for owner-occupied, primary residences.
- ★ The income limit for the Basic STAR credit is \$500,000 (the new income limit for the Basic STAR exemption is \$250,000).
- ★ Reduces the first \$30,000 of the full value of a home.

## Enhanced STAR

- ★ Provides an increased benefit for the primary residences of senior citizens (age 65 and older).
- ★ The income limit for the Enhanced STAR benefit is \$86,300 or less for the 2019-2020 school year.
- ★ Reduces the first \$68,700 of the full value of a home for the 2019-2020 school year.
- ★ Enhanced STAR recipients are required to enroll in the Income Verification Program (IVP). To learn more, please go to [www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/ivp.htm](http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/ivp.htm).

## BEFORE YOU MAKE THE SWITCH:

Before registering, be sure to have the following information on hand for reference. You will not be able to save your online registration mid-point to complete at a later time if you do not have these materials on hand before you start:

- ★ The names and Social Security Numbers for all owners of the property and their spouses.
- ★ The primary residence of the owners and their spouses.
- ★ Approximate date the owners purchased the property and the name of the sellers. This information is on file with your Town Clerk if you do not have it.
- ★ 2018 school tax bill, if the current owners received one.
- ★ Address of any residential property owned in another state.
- ★ The legal name of the trust, if applicable.
- ★ 2017 federal or state income tax returns for all owners.

**NOTE:** If you weren't required to file a 2017 income tax return, you will need the following information for all property owners: total wages, salaries, and tips; taxable interest income and dividends; unemployment compensation; total pensions and annuities; Social Security benefits; and other income.

## FAQ'S

**Who is Eligible?** If you own your home, and it is your primary residence, you may be eligible for either Basic STAR or Enhanced STAR.

**Why Are The Changes Taking Place?** The Department of Taxation and Finance claims the changes are being made to make it easier to track the STAR program. The real reason is to keep state spending below the 2% spending cap. Real Property Tax Credit checks are tied to tax revenue and recorded as a reduction in revenue going to the state; exemptions, however, are a state expense.

**What If I Don't Have Internet?** These applications should be available at your local town hall, village hall, or county building, or you can contact the state Department of Taxation and Finance's STAR hotline from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by calling (518) 457-2036.

## TOWN PHONE NUMBERS

TOWN OF PITTSFORD	(585) 248-6200	TOWN OF MOUNT MORRIS	(585) 658-2730
VILLAGE OF PITTSFORD	(585) 586-4332	VILLAGE OF MOUNT MORRIS	(585) 658-4160
TOWN OF MENDON	(585) 624-6060	TOWN OF LEICESTER	(585) 382-3231
VILLAGE OF HONEOYE FALLS	(585) 624-1711	VILLAGE OF LEICESTER	(585) 382-3699
TOWN OF RUSH	(585) 533-1312	TOWN OF SPRINGWATER	(585) 669-2545
TOWN OF WHEATLAND	(585) 889-1553, <i>OPTION 7</i>	TOWN OF SPARTA	(585) 335-6703
VILLAGE OF SCOTTSVILLE	(585) 889-6050	TOWN OF WEST SPARTA	(585) 335-3138
TOWN OF CALEDONIA	(585) 538-4927, <i>EXT. 126</i>	TOWN OF NUNDA	(585) 468-5177
VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA	(585) 538-6565	VILLAGE OF NUNDA	(585) 468-2215
TOWN OF LIMA	(585) 582-1130	TOWN OF PORTAGE	(585) 476-5910
VILLAGE OF LIMA	(585) 624-2210	TOWN OF OSSIAN	(585) 335-7600
TOWN OF AVON	(585) 226-2425, <i>EXT. 1</i>	TOWN OF NORTH DANSVILLE	(585) 335-2330
VILLAGE OF AVON	(585) 226-8118	VILLAGE OF DANSVILLE	(585) 335-5330
TOWN OF YORK	(585) 243-3128, <i>EXT. 5</i>	TOWN OF WAYLAND	(585) 728-2800
TOWN OF GENESEO	(585) 991-5000	TOWN OF DANSVILLE	(607) 295-7223
VILLAGE OF GENESEO	(585) 243-1177	TOWN OF HORNELLSVILLE	(607) 295-9660
TOWN OF LIVONIA	(585) 346-3710	CITY OF HORNELL	(607) 324-7421
VILLAGE OF LIVONIA	(585) 346-3100	VILLAGE OF ARKPORT	(607) 295-7346
TOWN OF CONESUS	(585) 346-3130, <i>EXT. 5</i>	VILLAGE OF NORTH HORNELL	(607) 324-7894
TOWN OF GROVELAND	(585) 243-1750	TOWN OF COHOCTON	(585) 534-5100, <i>EXT. 6</i>
		VILLAGE OF COHOCTON	(585) 384-5252
		TOWN OF PRATTSBURGH	(607) 522-3761

**It is strongly encouraged that homeowners apply for the STAR credit as soon as possible to receive your STAR credit check for this school tax year.**

For more information on this or any other state issue, please contact Assemblywoman Byrnes at:

30 Office Park Way, Pittsford, NY • (585) 218-0063 • [byrnesm@nyassembly.gov](mailto:byrnesm@nyassembly.gov)



**Marjorie**  
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ASSEMBLYWOMAN

**ATTENTION**

**HOMEOWNERS:**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT**

# **NEW STAR PROGRAM CHANGES**

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New York State Assembly  
Albany, NY 12248

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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT**

# **NEW STAR PROGRAM CHANGES**

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**WHAT IS**

# **THE STAR PROGRAM?**

**The School Tax Relief (STAR)** program provides eligible homeowners in New York State with relief on their property taxes through the Basic STAR and Enhanced STAR programs. If you're a recipient, you may be receiving the benefit in one of two ways:

- ★ **The STAR exemption** (now closed to new applicants after fiscal year 2015-16): you receive a direct reduction on your school tax bill in the form of a property tax exemption.
- ★ **The STAR credit program:** you receive a check in the mail from the Tax Department to apply to your school taxes. If you are in this program, you will continue to pay your taxes and receive your check as normal.

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