

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

YEAR 2015

APPLICATION FOR PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

ELDERLY OR DISABLED EXCLUSION (G.S. 105-277.1),

DISABLED VETERAN EXCLUSION (G.S. 105-277.1C), or

CIRCUIT BREAKER TAX DEFERMENT PROGRAM (G.S. 105-277.1B)

Parcel ID Number: _____

Name of Applicant: _____ DOB: _____ M _____ D _____ Y
Last First MI

Name of Spouse: _____ DOB: _____ M _____ D _____ Y
Last First MI

Residence Address: _____

Telephone Number: (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

E-mail Address: _____ (optional)

Circle One:

Yes No Is this property your permanent legal residence?

Yes No Does your spouse (if applicable) live with you in the residence? If you answer **No**, provide your spouse's address: _____

Yes No Are you or your spouse currently residing in a health care facility? If you answer **Yes**, circle one (applicant / spouse) and indicate current length of stay: _____

Yes No Do you and your spouse (if applicable) own 100% interest in the property? If you answer **No**, list all owners and their ownership percentage:

Owner _____ % Owner _____ %
Owner _____ % Owner _____ %
Owner _____ % Owner _____ %

Note: Separate applications are required for each owner that is claiming property tax relief. If a husband and wife own the property as tenants by the entirety, only one application is required. If a husband and wife own the property as tenants in common, then a separate application is required for each spouse.

Part 1. Selecting the Program

Each owner may receive benefit from only one of the three property tax relief programs, even though you may meet the requirements for more than one program.

However, it is possible that the tax rates or tax values may not be established until some time after the filing of this application. This can make it difficult for you to determine which program you prefer. The following procedures will help to resolve this situation.

Applying for One Program

If you know that you only wish to apply for one program, check only that program in the section below. The assessor will review your application and send you a notice of decision. The notice of decision will also explain the procedures to appeal if you do not agree with the decision of the assessor.

Applying for More Than One Program

Each owner is eligible to receive benefit from only one program. However, if you think you meet the requirements for more than one program but, as a result of the uncertainty of tax rates or values at the time of application, you are unable to make a decision on which **one program** you wish to choose, check all of the programs in the section below for which you wish to receive consideration. When the tax rates and values are determined, the assessor will review your application and will send you a letter notifying you of your options. If the letter indicates that you do not qualify or if you disagree with any decision in the letter, you may appeal. **You must respond to the option letter within the specified time period or it will be assumed that you do not wish to participate in any of the property tax relief programs.** In that case, you will be so notified and you will have the chance to appeal.

Please read the descriptions and requirements of the three programs on the following pages and then check the program(s) for which you are applying:

Check:

You Must Complete:

Elderly or Disabled Exclusion **Parts 2, 5, 6**

Disabled Veteran Exclusion **Parts 3, 6**

Circuit Breaker Tax Deferment Program **Parts 4, 5, 6**

If you check more than one program, please read ALL of the information on this page!

If applying for the Elderly or Disabled Exclusion – complete sections highlighted in yellow and sections not highlighted.

Part 2. Elderly or Disabled Exclusion

Short Description: This program excludes the greater of the first \$25,000 or 50% of the appraised value of the permanent residence of a qualifying owner. A qualifying owner must either be at least 65 years of age or be totally and permanently disabled. The owner cannot have an income amount for the previous year that exceeds the income eligibility limit for the current year, which for the 2014 tax year is **\$29,000**. See G.S. 105-277.1 for the full text of the statute.

Multiple Owners: Benefit limitations may apply when there are multiple owners. Each owner must file a separate application (other than husband and wife as tenants by the entirety). If eligible, each owner may receive benefits under the Elderly or Disabled Exclusion or the Disabled Veteran Exclusion. The Circuit Breaker Property Tax Deferral cannot be combined with either of these two programs.

- Circle One:**
- | | | |
|------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Yes | No | As of January 1, were you at least 65 years of age? If you answer Yes , you do not have to file <u>Form AV-9A Certification of Disability</u> . |
| Yes | No | As of January 1, were you totally and permanently disabled and less than 65 years of age? If you answer Yes , you must file <u>Form AV-9A Certification of Disability</u> . |

- Requirements:**
1. File Form AV-9A Certification of Disability if you are not at least 65 years of age.
 2. Complete Part 5. Income Information.
 3. Complete Part 6. Affirmation and Signature.

If applying for the Disabled Veteran's Exclusion, complete sections highlighted in blue and sections not highlighted.

Part 3. Disabled Veteran Exclusion

Short Description: This program excludes up to the first \$45,000 of the appraised value of the permanent residence of an honorably discharged veteran who has a total and permanent disability that is service-connected **or** who receives benefits for specially adapted housing under 38 U.S.C. 2101. There is no age or income limitation for this program. This benefit is also available to the unmarried surviving spouse of an honorably discharged disabled veteran. See G.S. 105-277.1C for the full text of the statute.

Multiple Owners: Benefit limitations may apply when there are multiple owners. Each owner must file a separate application (other than husband and wife as tenants by the entirety). If eligible, each owner may receive benefits under the Disabled Veteran Exclusion or the Elderly or Disabled Exclusion. The Circuit Breaker Property Tax Deferment cannot be combined with either of these two programs.

Circle One: **Yes** **No** Are you an honorably discharged veteran of a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces? Name of branch: _____

Yes **No** Are you the unmarried surviving spouse of an honorably discharged disabled veteran? If you answer Yes, complete this section and provide the documentation based on your spouse's status on the date of death.

Either answer this: **Yes** **No** Do you have a veteran's disability certification from the Veterans Administration or another federal agency that certifies that you have a total and permanent disability that is service-connected? **YOU MUST PROVIDE A COPY TO THE TAX ASSESSOR TO RECEIVE BENEFIT.**

Or this: **Yes** **No** Do you have documentation that you receive benefits for specially adapted housing under 38 U.S.C. 2101? **YOU MUST PROVIDE A COPY TO THE TAX ASSESSOR TO RECEIVE BENEFIT.**

- Requirements:**
1. File a veteran's disability certification if you are claiming a total and permanent service-connected disability. Obtain the certification from the appropriate federal agency, **or**
 1. File documentation that you receive benefits for specially adapted housing under 38 U.S.C. 2101. Obtain the documentation from the appropriate federal agency.
 2. File a copy of your Honorable Discharge Certificate.
 3. Complete Part 6. Affirmation and Signature.

Office Use Only: VDC Received: Y / N Date: _____ Approved: Y / N Date: _____ By: _____
SAH Received: Y / N Date: _____ Comments: _____
HDC Received: Y / N Date: _____

If applying for the Circuit Breaker Property Tax Deferment please fill out sections highlighted in green and sections not highlighted.

Part 4. Circuit Breaker Property Tax Deferment

Short Description: Under this program, taxes for each year are limited to a percentage of the qualifying owner's income. A qualifying owner must either be at least 65 years of age or be totally and permanently disabled. For an owner whose income amount for the previous year does not exceed the income eligibility limit for the current year, which for the 2014 tax year is **\$29,000**, the owner's taxes will be limited to four percent (4%) of the owner's income. For an owner whose income exceeds the income eligibility limit (**\$29,000**) but does not exceed 150% of the income eligibility limit, which for the 2014 tax year is **\$43,500**, the owner's taxes will be limited to five percent (5%) of the owner's income.

However, the taxes over the limitation amount are deferred and remain a lien on the property. The last three years of deferred taxes prior to a disqualifying event will become due and payable, with interest, on the date of the disqualifying event. Interest accrues on the deferred taxes as if they had been payable on the dates on which they would have originally become due. Disqualifying events are death of the owner, transfer of the property, and failure to use the property as the owner's permanent residence. Exceptions and special provisions apply. See G.S. 105-277.1B for the full text of the statute.

YOU MUST FILE A NEW APPLICATION FOR THIS PROGRAM EVERY YEAR!

Multiple Owners: Each owner (other than husband and wife as tenants by the entirety) must file a separate application. **All owners must qualify and elect to defer taxes under this program or no benefit is allowed under this program.** The Circuit Breaker Property Tax Deferment cannot be combined with either the Elderly or Disabled Exclusion or the Disabled Veteran Exclusion.

- Check One:**
- Yes No** As of January 1, were you at least 65 years of age? If you answer **Yes**, you do not have to file Form AV-9A Certification of Disability.
 - Yes No** As of January 1, were you totally and permanently disabled and less than 65 years of age? If you answer **Yes**, you must file Form AV-9A Certification of Disability.
 - Yes No** Have you owned and occupied your permanent residence for at least the last five full years prior to January 1 of this year?
 - Yes No** Do all owners of this property qualify for this program and elect to defer taxes under this program? If you answer **No**, the property cannot receive benefit under this program.

- Requirements:**
1. File Form AV-9A Certification of Disability if you are not at least 65 years of age.
 2. Complete Part 5. Income Information.
 3. Complete Part 6. Affirmation and Signature.

Part 5. Income Information (continued from previous page)

2. Provide the income information requested below for the previous calendar year. Provide the total amount for both spouses. **Even if you file a Federal Income Tax Return, you must attach documentation of the income that you report below (W-2, SSA-1099, 1099-R, 1099-INT, 1099-DIV, financial institution statements, etc.).** We cannot accept Social Security Award letters or proof of a monthly deposit. We must have the TOTAL AMOUNT you received for the year.

- a. Wages, Salaries, Tips, etc..... \$ _____
- b. Interest (Taxable and Tax Exempt)..... \$ _____
- c. Dividends..... \$ _____
- d. Capital Gains..... \$ _____
- e. IRA Distributions..... \$ _____
- f. Pensions and Annuities..... \$ _____
- g. Disability Payments (not included in Pensions and Annuities)..... \$ _____
- h. Social Security Benefits (Taxable and Tax Exempt)..... \$ _____
- i. All other moneys received (examples: alimony, rents, income from Sched. C, E, F)... \$ _____
- Total**..... \$ _____

Comments: _____

INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO VERIFICATION WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.

Office Use Only: FITR Required: Y / N FITR Received: Y / N Date: _____
Income: \$ _____ < IEL / 1.5 IEL / > 1.5 IEL Date: _____ By: _____
Comments: _____

Part 6. Affirmation and Signature

AFFIRMATION OF APPLICANT – Under penalties prescribed by law, I hereby affirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all information furnished by me in connection with this application is true and complete. **Furthermore, I understand that if I participate in the Circuit Breaker Property Tax Deferral Program, liens for the deferred taxes will exist on my property. The last three years of deferred taxes prior to a disqualifying event will become due and payable, with interest, on the date of the disqualifying event.**

Applicant's Name (please print)

Applicant's Signature

Date

Spouse's Name (please print)

Spouse's Signature

Date

Application must be received by June 1st to be timely filed.

Do not send this application to the North Carolina Department of Revenue. Please return this form and the required proof to:

New Hanover County Tax Office
230 Government Center Drive, Suite 190
Wilmington, NC 28403

OR

FAX NUMBER (910) 798-7310