

**TOWN OF BOW, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Elderly Exemptions - Information and Conditions**

Deadline for Filing with the Town: April 15<sup>th</sup>

- I. To qualify, per RSA 72:39-a, and following the Town of Bow's criteria, the person applying must:
- 1) Have resided in the state of New Hampshire for at least 3 years preceding April 1 in the year in which the exemption is being claimed.
  - 2) In the calendar year preceding said April 1, have had a net income from all sources, of not more than \$38,500 if single; or if married, a combined net income from all sources, of not more than \$50,000. The net income shall be determined by adding together all gross moneys received from any source, including social security or pension payments, and deducting the amount of any of the following:
    - a) Life insurance paid on the death of an insured in the year received (the following year it is to be considered an asset and you must notify us if your assets then exceed the limit);
    - b) Expenses and costs incurred in the course of conducting a business;
    - c) Proceeds from the sale of assets in the year received (the following year it becomes an asset, and you must notify us if it causes your assets to exceed the limit).
  - 3) Own net assets not in excess of \$200,000, excluding the value of the person's actual residence and the land upon which it is located, up to two acres.

- II. Additional requirements for an exemption under RSA 72:39-b, shall be that the property is:
- (a) Owned by the resident; or
  - (b) Owned by a resident jointly or in common with the resident's spouse, either of whom meets the age requirement for the exemption claimed; or
  - (c) Owned by a resident jointly or in common with a person not the resident's spouse, if the resident meets the applicable age requirement for the exemption claimed; or
  - (d) Owned by a resident, or the resident's spouse, either of whom meets the age requirement for the exemption claimed, and when they have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years.

III. Per RSA 72:40-a, no elderly exemption shall be allowed if the resident applying has, within the preceding 5 years, received transfer of the real estate from a person under the age of 65 related by blood or marriage.

IV. If any entitled person or persons shall own a fractional interest in residential real estate, each such entitled person shall be granted a tax credit in proportion to his interest therein with other persons so entitled, but in no case shall the total tax credit exceed the credit allowed. (RSA 72:30)

**NOTE:** If your property is presently in a trust, or is subsequently placed in a trust, you will need to complete the Statement of Qualification form and submit other documentation, per the form. Also, if the ownership changes, your finances changes, you move, are widowed, divorce or remarry, you must notify us in writing.

The Town of Bow offers Elderly Exemptions in the following amounts, which is subtracted yearly from the value of the person's residential property for tax purposes:

\$117,000 for those 65-74 years of age • \$143,000 for those 75-79 years of age • \$169,000 for age 80 or over

**DEFINITIONS**

Net Assets: means the value of ALL assets, tangible and intangible, minus the value of any good faith encumbrances. Assets would include any real estate over the exception listed in #I:3 above, and items such as, but not limited to: stocks, bonds, savings and checking accounts, IRA's, motor vehicles, jewelry, furniture, boats, coin collections, art collections, antiques, the cash value of life insurance, deferred annuities, etc.

Residence: means the housing unit and related structures, such as an unattached garage or woodshed, which is the person's principal home, and which the person in good faith regards as home, to the exclusion of any

other places where the person may temporarily live. The residence shall exclude attached dwelling units, and unattached structures used or intended for commercial or other nonresidential purposes.

**OTHER RSA'S REGARDING ELDERLY EXEMPTIONS:**

**72:39a III** -- Upon the death of an owner residing with a spouse pursuant to subparagraph II(b) or II(d), the combined net asset amount for married persons determined by the city or town shall continue to apply to the surviving spouse for the purpose of the exemption granted under RSA 72:39-b until the sale or transfer of the property by the surviving spouse or until the remarriage of the surviving spouse.

**72:41-a** -- Any person who has qualified for the exemption under RSA 72:39-b, who has met the conditions for an exemption under RSA 72:39-a, and who has filed a permanent application for the exemption under RSA 72:42, shall not be required to meet the residency requirement [3 years] under RSA 72:39-a, a second time if it becomes necessary for the person to leave New Hampshire and establish residency in another state for any length of time due to health reasons, and who then reestablishes his residency in New Hampshire.