



## State of Maryland **PROPERTY TAX CREDIT**

Information you need to know

County Residents — you could be eligible for Property Tax Credits available through the State of Maryland's Department of Assessment and Taxation. Check your eligibility and then share this important news with a friend or neighbor! Learn more by visiting <http://dat.maryland.gov/Pages/Tax-Credit-Programs.aspx> or call the Tax Credits Telephone Service at 1-800-944-7403.

### Homeowners' Property Tax Credit Program

This property tax credit program sets a limit on the amount of property taxes a homeowner must pay, based on total household income of \$60,000 or less. Nontaxable retirement benefits such as Social Security and Railroad Retirement must be reported as income. You must apply every year no later than September 1 on a standard application supplied by the Department of Assessments and Taxation.

Example: If your combined household income is \$16,000, your tax limit is \$420. You would be entitled to receive a credit for any taxes above the \$420. If your actual property tax bill is \$990, you would receive a tax credit in the amount of \$570, the difference between the actual tax bill and the tax limit.

### Homestead Property Tax Credit

To help homeowners deal with large assessment increases on their principal residence, state law has established the Homestead Property Tax Credit. The Homestead Credit limits the increase in taxable assessments each year to a fixed percentage. Every county and municipality in Maryland is required to limit taxable assessment increases to 10% or less each year. Prince George's County is required to establish an annual cap of CPI or 5%, whichever is lower.

Check the status of your Homestead eligibility by looking up your property on the Real Property database:

<http://sdat.dat.maryland.gov/RealProperty/Pages/default.aspx>

You can also contact the Assessments Office at 301-952-2500 or visit: <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/pages/assessments.aspx>

**Assessments Office/Courthouse**

**14735 Main Street**

**Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3050**

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## State of Maryland and Prince George's County **RENTERS' TAX CREDIT** and 24-Month Residential Leases for Seniors

The Prince George's County Council unanimously approved CB-95-2015, establishing a Renters' Property Tax Relief Supplement for qualifying County residents, and CB-59-2015, requiring that residential 24-month leases are offered to senior renters living in age-restricted facilities. These laws provide additional relief to County residents, especially seniors, enabling them to maintain their residency in Prince George's County.

### Maryland Renters' Tax Credit Program

The State of Maryland Renters' Tax Credit Program provides Property Tax credits for renters who are age 60 and older or 100% disabled, and also meet certain income requirements. Under HB-340, passed by the Prince George's County Delegation and the Maryland General Assembly in the 2016 Legislative Session, renters can receive maximum tax relief up to \$1,000. This legislation also expands the statewide Renters Tax Credit program and increases the pool of eligible applicants. To get a credit for 2015, you must file by September 1st.

Contact the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation at 1-800-944-7403 or visit: <http://dat.maryland.gov/realproperty/Pages/Renters'-Tax-Credits.aspx>

### 24-Month Residential Leases for Seniors

Prince George's County seniors living in specified age-restricted housing can now enter into a 24-month lease agreement without incurring fees or rent increases for the term of the lease. Landlords are required to provide written notice about the 24-month period when entering into a new lease or a renewal lease. For more information, contact Code Enforcement Officer Ann Keys at the County's Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE), 301-883-6058.

### Prince George's County Renters' Property Tax Relief Supplement

The Prince George's County Council, aware that residents who qualify for the State's Renters' Tax Credit Program are already stretched financially, also passed CB-95-2015. Prince George's County will automatically provide a Renters' Property Tax Relief Supplement to each resident who qualifies for the State Renters' Tax Credit. The County Supplement is 50% of the State payment, and will be dispersed in early winter of each year. No additional application is required. If you have additional questions, please contact the Office of Finance, Treasury Division, at 301-952-4030.

*Example: If you qualify for a State of Maryland Renters' Tax Credit of \$400, you will automatically receive a tax credit of \$200 from Prince George's County for a total of \$600.*

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