

## Property Tax 101 - Week 5: What are Homestead Exemptions, and how do I know if I qualify for them?

Answer: Homestead Exemptions can be applied to your tax bill if you qualify, thereby lowering your taxes. There are several exemptions available, each having different taxpayer qualifications. Exemptions reduce the net taxable value of a property which can have a significant impact on the amount of tax owed. Some of the more common homestead exemptions are:

General Homestead Exemption or Owner Occupied

Standard Homestead for Veterans with Disabilities

Returning Veterans Homestead Exemption

Senior Citizens Homestead Exemption

(there are several other exemptions as well – see the I.D.O.R. publications list)

For more information visit the Jefferson County website at <http://www.jeffersoncountyillinois.com>, go to the Treasurer/Collector page, and check out the IDOR Property Tax Publications tab. There is a PDF entitled “Property Tax Relief – Homestead Exemptions” that explains each exemption and who qualifies.

To find out if you qualify for a particular exemption, contact the County Supervisor of Assessments office by visiting them in the basement of the courthouse, or call them at 618-244-8016 ext 7.

***“If you have any questions, or would like more information, please contact our office at 244-8010. We are here to help you in any way we can.”***

**Next week: How do I change my mailing address on my tax bill?**

