

Extension Deadline on 'Senior Freeze' Property Tax Reimbursement

The State of New Jersey Department of the Treasury announced today that the deadline for filing 2009 "Senior Freeze" (Property Tax Reimbursement) applications has been extended to August 2. The initial deadline was June 1, 2010.

"It's important that every eligible senior or disabled resident applies for the Property Tax Reimbursement (PTR) program this year," the State announced. "Extending the deadline for the PTR program will ensure that more homeowners get this welcome property tax relief."

While new applicants will not receive benefits this year, they should apply to establish their eligibility for benefits in future years.

Governor Christie's budget ensures that every current participant whose income for 2009 does not exceed last year's income limit of \$70,000 will receive a reimbursement this year if they continue to meet the eligibility requirements. Reimbursement checks for eligible senior and disabled residents who file their 2009 applications by the original filing deadline of June 1 are scheduled to be mailed on or about July 15, 2010.

New applicants will not receive a payment in fiscal 2011, but should apply anyway because doing so will establish a base year when applying for a reimbursement in future years.

Homestead rebate applications are not being distributed this summer and fall because of the shift to a payment via credits on property tax bills. Taxpayers will not begin receiving those credits until May 2011. Applications will be distributed nearer to the May 2011 deadline.

For more information about the Senior Freeze program, or to obtain an application, contact the Property Tax Reimbursement hotline at 1-800-882-6597 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Information about the program is also available on the Division of Taxation's Web site at www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/2009ptr_seniorfreeze.shtml, or you can contact Ron Ruggeri at Rruggeri@mspc-cpa.com.