

## Tax Relief guidelines about income and net worth

Spouse and/or any other family or roommates' income must be included in total income for applicant. If there is another family member living with applicant, who is there to help take care of them or share the efforts of daily living, then up to \$10,000 of that relative's income can be exempted from inclusion in the total income.

With the completed application, we need a copy of proof of your income. This is usually a statement of your yearly Social Security benefits.

Net worth must be calculated using full assessment values of other property owned, i.e. not land use values.

If someone is living in a mobile home that they own, and it is listed in Personal Property, then the procedure for tax relief is to issue an Abatement for the PP bill as it is going out at the end of the year.

We use one acre or the size of the lot if it is smaller than 1 acre, plus value of house that the applicant lives in, to determine value of exempted dwelling and homesite when evaluating their application. However, once the rate of their discount for Tax Relief is set by Tommy Blackwell, the Commissioner of the Revenue, that rate is given to all the acres in that particular parcel. Only one parcel of land can be discounted in Tax Relief. If contiguous parcels of land are owned by the applicant, they are considered assets and should be added into the total assets.

If you apply because of being disabled, you must be declared 100% disabled (and unable to work) through the Social Security Administration or by a written statement from two independent physicians.

An increase in the limits and amount of the tax exemption possible with the Tax Relief Program has been approved by the Board of Supervisors to begin in 2009. They are:

\$27,500 maximum income level (10% increase from last year)  
\$100,000 maximum net worth (100% increase from last year)  
\$625 maximum exemption given (25% increase from last year)

The tax relief given is calculated according to the following schedule:

Income less than \$16,000	100% of tax (or \$625 maximum)
Income \$16,001 - \$20,000	80% of tax (or \$625 maximum)
Income \$20,001 - \$23,500	60% of tax (or \$625 maximum)
Income \$23,501 - \$27,500	40% of tax (or \$625 maximum)
Income more than \$27,500	no tax relief given

\*Applicants who have put their property in a Life Estate have tax relief determined by a different formula,