



2025 Senior Tax Credit Application
Intended for individuals with assets between \$500,000-\$800,000
Deadline: January 9, 2026
Guide to the Application Process

Senior Tax Credit application can now be filed online

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/finance/tax-credits>

Howard County provides a credit for the real property tax bill for homeowners 65 or older who qualify based on gross household income. The amount of credit equals 25% of the County property tax due after all other allowable credits granted for the property are applied. You **MAY NOT** receive an Aging in Place Tax Credit, Public Safety Officer Credit, and a Senior Tax Credit in the same tax year. Please make payment of your second installment as scheduled, if your 2025 tax bill is paid in full at the time a credit is approved and applied, we will issue you a refund. Please allow 30 days for processing of your application.

Senior Tax Credit Application:

- ☐ You **MUST** be at least 65 years of age as of June 30th.
- ☐ The property for which the credit is sought must be your principal residence (determined by the MD Department of Assessments and Taxation) and where you expect to reside for more than 6 months of the tax year, including July 1st.
- ☐ An individual unable to reside in their principal residence for reasons of illness may still be eligible with supporting documentation from attending physicians.
- ☐ Your combined gross household income does not exceed **\$105,750** for the 2024 calendar year.
- ☐ Your combined household net worth does not exceed **\$800,000** as of December 31, 2024. This does not include your principal residence. A homeowner may claim credit for only one principal residence.

Definitions

The Senior Tax Credit program applicant must report **total “gross” income**, which means the combined gross household income for the 2024 calendar year.

GROSS INCOME- total earnings before taxes or other deductions.

Income from any source before any tax exemptions or deductions. Gross income includes non-taxable income. Income information must be reported for the applicant, spouse or co-owner and all other occupants of the dwelling unless such other occupants were claimed as dependents on the applicant's federal income tax return or unless they are paying reasonable fixed charges, such as rent or room and board. Payment of household expenses by other occupants should be reported as room and board. All gifts over \$300 and expenses paid on your behalf by others must be reported as income.

Net Worth

For the Senior Tax Credit, net worth means, after deducting outstanding liabilities, the sum of the current market value of all assets including real property, cash, savings accounts cash value of qualified retirement savings plans, and individual retirement and other investments, *but **not** including the dwelling for which the property tax credit is sought, tangible personal property, or the cash value of any life insurance.*

APPLICATION CHECKLIST- *PHONE PHOTO DOCUMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED*

- Complete **ALL SECTIONS** of Senior Tax Credit Application.
- ID – Copy of a valid Maryland Driver’s License or MVA-issued I.D. for all owners. If an owner listed on the deed does not reside at the property, please provide their state-issued driver’s license or state-issued photo identification.

NOTE : Self-prepared tax returns will not be accepted

- **IRS Wage and Income Transcript** –www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript **or**
- **IRS Form 1040** including applicable supporting schedules prepared by a certified tax preparer
- W-2, 1099-INT, 1099-DIV, 1099-B 1099-C, W2-G, 1099-misc, 1099-K
- Social Security & Railroad – SSA-1099, RRB 1099, 1099R’s
- Business Owners- If gross income was derived from:
 - Partnership -Form 1065 and 1065/K1
 - S Corporation or Corporation -Forms 1120 or 1120s
 - Sole Proprietor- Schedule C
 - Rental Income-Schedule E

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Mailing Address

Howard County
Department of Finance
Senior Tax Credit
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Contact Information

Phone: (410) 313-2062
Hours: Monday – Friday
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Email: taxcredit@howardcountymd.gov

State of MD

Homeowner Credit -HTC
State Dept. of Assessment
contact 410-767-5900

2025 HOWARD COUNTY SENIOR TAX CREDIT APPLICATION – DEADLINE: JANUARY 9, 2026

| | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|---------------|
| <u>Section 1</u> Parcel Number: | | Property Address | City /Zip |
| Name: (Last, First, MI) | | Last (4) XXXX social security # | Date of Birth |
| Name: (Last, First, MI) | | Last (4) XXXX social security # | Date of Birth |
| B) Marital Status: check one: ___ Single ___ Married ___ Divorced ___ Widowed-provide copy of death cert. (if previously submitted do not resubmit) | | | |
| C) If more information is needed, how would you like to be contacted? Check One ___ Email address: _____ or ___ Mail | | | |
| D) Did you or will you file a Federal Income Tax Return for 2024? ___ Yes - please submit a copy of Form 1040 Federal prepared by a certified Tax preparer ___ NO- please provide IRS WAGE & INCOME STATEMENT – 800-908-9946 or by visiting the IRS website at www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript | | | |
| E) Do you own other real estate? (This does not include primary residence)? ___ Yes ___ No If yes, provide the address and copy of the 2024 tax bill for each property and if applicable form 1098 | | | |
| <u>Section 2 HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION</u> | | | |
| A) Information for all other residents who are NOT on the deed but reside in the property You must provide name(s) and report the gross Income, with 2024 tax return for all residents over 18 years of age who lived in your household during 2024, who is not a co-owner and <u>cannot</u> be claimed as a dependent for IRS purposes: if not applicable write none YOU MUST ANSWER 2A& 2B | | | |
| Name _____ | | Total Gross Income \$ _____ | |
| Name _____ | | Total Gross Income \$ _____ | |
| B) Information for all residents who are not on the deed residing in property that pay Room & Board You must provide the name of persons 18 years or older residing in the property that pay room & board if not applicable write none | | | |
| Name _____ | | Monthly Room & Board \$ _____ | |
| Name _____ | | Monthly Room & Board \$ _____ | |
| <u>Section 3</u> | | | |
| <u>INVESTMENT INFORMATION:</u> Investments include real estate (do not include your primary residence for which credit is sought), trust funds, money market funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, stock options, bonds, other securities, installment, and land sale contracts (including mortgages held), commodities etc. | | | |
| NOTE: If A&C equals less than \$200K and Gross income is less than \$60K, you must apply to the State of MD for the State of MD Homeowner credit. | | | |
| a. As of 12/31/2024 what was your total balance in cash, savings and checking accounts | | | \$ _____ |
| b. As of 12/31/2024 what was the total of investments in Qualified retirement and individual retirement accounts | | | \$ _____ |
| c. As of 12/31/2024 what was the net worth of your investments? Net worth means current value minus debt. | | | \$ _____ |
| Total Investments -A+B+C (cannot equal \$0 or N/A) | | | \$ _____ |

| SOURCES OF <u>GROSS</u> INCOME CALENDER YEAR ENDING: DECEMBER 31, 2024 | (1) APPLICANT | (2) SPOUSE OR RESIDENT CO-OWNER | (3) ALL OTHER RESIDENTS | OFFICE USE ONLY |
|--|--------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|
| Wages, Salary, Tips, Commissions, Fees (Attach a copy of 2024 W-2) | | | | |
| Interest (taxable & non-taxable, attach 1099 INT) | | | | |
| Dividends (taxable & non-taxable, attach 1099 DIV) | | | | |
| Gross Capital Gains (Includes non-taxable gains) 1099-B | | | | |
| Gross Rental Income (Schedule E) | | | | |
| Gross Business Income (Schedule C/1065/1120/1120S) | | | | |
| Room & Board (see instructions) | | | | |
| Unemployment Insurance; Worker's Compensation (attach 1099-G) | | | | |
| Alimony; Public Assistance Grant | | | | |
| Social Security; SSI Benefits (Attach copy of 2024 SSA-1099) | | | | |
| Railroad Retirement (Attach ENTIRE copy of 2024 RRB 1099) | | | | |
| Federal Pensions: Including VA Benefits (Attach a copy of 2024 1099-R) | | | | |
| Pensions and Annuities (Attach a copy of 2024 1099R) | | | | |
| IRA Distributions (Attach a copy of 2024 1099-R) If rollover, attach proof of deposit | | | | |
| Deferred Compensation (Attach a 2024 W-2 OR 1099 Statement) | | | | |
| Inheritances; Gifts over \$300; Expenses Paid by Others (Provide documentation) | | | | |
| All other incomes (Provide source AND documentation) | | | | |
| 2024 TOTAL INCOME | | | | |

I declare under the penalties of perjury pursuant to Sec.1-201 of the Maryland Tax-Property Code Annotated that this application (including any accompanying forms and statements) has been examined by me and the information contained herein, to the best of my knowledge and belief, is true correct and complete, that I have reported all monies received and that this dwelling will be my principal residence for the prescribed period. I understand that the Howard County Department of Finance may request, at a later date, additional information to verify the statements reported on this form, and that independent verifications of the information reported may be made. I also understand that intentionally providing false information on this application may subject me to criminal penalties and fines.

Please do not email any tax credits applications or support documentation to the Department of Finance. Email will not be accepted in accordance with the data security protocol. Instead, please apply online or mail your documents to the Department of Finance, Senior Tax Credit, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE

CO-APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE