



**TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS
ASSESSING DEPARTMENT**

56 School Street
P.O. Box 1327
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
508-693-3554 Ext 104

March 29, 2021

Dear Oak Bluffs Tax Payer:

The Oak Bluffs Assessors are asking resident homeowners to please complete the residential exemption application on the back side of this letter and return it along with the requested documentation to our offices. Please mail this paperwork to Assessors, Town of Oak Bluffs, PO Box 1327, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557. We encourage applicants to return these as soon as possible to allow time for our department to process them.

Massachusetts General Law allows the Board of Selectmen to grant a reduction in property taxes to resident homeowners each year, which is offset by other residential property owners. The Town of Oak Bluffs has never offered this exemption, and practically speaking, the exemption would be nearly impossible to implement without first determining who would qualify.

In 2019 the Board of Selectmen asked that our department “pre-qualify” tax payers in order to allow for a potential future residential exemption. It is important to understand that the Selectmen have made no decision in favor of or against a residential exemption. The goal is simply to provide a practical path for implementing an exemption should the Board of Selectmen vote for one in the future. This vote happens at the “classification hearing”, which generally occurs in November or early December each year.

If implemented, the residential exemption would be offered to tax payers whose home in Oak Bluffs is their “domicile.”

One definition of domicile is “the place where the applicant has his or her principal and legal home, the place where family, social, civic and economic life is centered and where the applicant plans to return whenever he or she is away.” A person may have more than one residence but only one domicile.

Please follow the directions on the application carefully. The Assessors need the supporting documentation in order to help determine if a property owner would qualify for the exemption.

For more information on the residential exemption please go to the Assessing page of the town website. Follow the link for **Proposed Residential Exemption Qualification Project**.

If you have questions about completing the application, please contact our administrative assistant at (508) 693-3554 x104.

Sincerely,

MacGregor Anderson, MAA, Principal Assessor

FISCAL YEAR 2022
RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OAK BLUFFS

All information on this form must be completed in full and required documentation must be attached in order for the application to be considered complete. Under statute, the application for residential exemption must be filed no later than April 1, 2022. However, prompt filing is requested, and will greatly speed and simplify any credits if an exemption is ever declared.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Property Address _____

1) Name(s) of record owner(s) _____

2) Name of Applicant(s) _____

3) Was parcel owned and occupied by you as your domicile as of January 1, 2021? YES ___ NO ___

NOTE: If no, please return the form but you can skip to the signature line (9) and not include any documentation.

4) Please attach a copy of the 1st page of your most recent Federal Income Tax Return. We ask that you black out or otherwise cover your social security number and income information.

- If your return shows a PO Box or address other than the property address, attach a copy of both sides of your current driver's license showing owner's name with the Oak Bluffs address. If you do not have a valid driver's license please submit other evidence that shows this property as your domicile.
If you aren't required to file a tax return in 2021, submit a short, written explanation as to why and include any pertinent documentation such as a SSI return, a copy of both sides of a current driver's license showing owner's name with Oak Bluffs address or other proof of residency.

5) List the location and type of any other residential real estate owned by you: _____

6) Have you received or applied for, or will you receive or apply for any other residential exemption and/or homestead exemption in any other state, city or town in this fiscal year (7/1/21 to 6/30/22) or the previous fiscal year? ___ NO ___ YES If yes, what city/state? _____

Signing this form under the penalties of perjury has the legal effect of swearing under oath to the truthfulness of the information contained herein. All items on this form must be completed as indicated. In addition to other sanctions provided by law, intentional misrepresentation of facts in this application may result in cancellation of this exemption and the subsequent issuance of an omitted bill for the exempted value involved for the current fiscal year.

9) Signature of Applicant: _____

10) Mailing Address (if different than property location): _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

ASSESSOR'S USE ONLY

GRANTED: _____ DENIED: _____ NO ACTION: _____ DATE: _____ AMOUNT ABATED: _____