

Clinton County Auditor Urges Eligible Homeowners to Apply for Homestead Exemption to Receive One-Time Property Tax Reduction

WILMINGTON, OH — September 24, 2026 — Clinton County Auditor Terry Habermehl is encouraging Clinton County homeowners who may qualify for Ohio's Homestead Exemption to apply as soon as possible to ensure they are considered for a **one-time property tax reduction created by House Bill 479 (HB 479)**.

HB 479, which became effective September 23, 2026, authorizes a one-time property tax reduction for homeowners who qualify for the Homestead Exemption for tax year 2026. The State of Ohio will reimburse local governments for the revenue associated with this reduction.

Under Ohio law, the Homestead Exemption is generally available to qualifying homeowners who are:

- Are 65 years of age or older and meet the applicable income limitation;
- Are permanently and totally disabled;
- Are a veteran with a 100% service-connected disability or a 100% unemployability rating; or
- Are the surviving spouse of a public service worker who was killed in the line of duty.

For some applicants, income limitations apply. For tax year 2026, the income threshold for certain qualifying applicants is \$41,000 in modified Ohio adjusted gross income.

HB 479 requires county auditors to certify the number of homestead-eligible properties to the Ohio Department of Taxation by November 1, 2026. The State will use that information to determine the amount of the one-time reduction per eligible home. The reduction is expected to appear on property tax bills issued in late 2026 or early 2027.

If you believe you may qualify for the Homestead Exemption and are not currently receiving it, please contact the Clinton County Auditor's Office and apply as soon as possible.

“We want to make sure that Clinton County homeowners who qualify for the Homestead Exemption are aware of this opportunity,” said Auditor Habermehl. “If you think you may qualify for the Homestead, contact our office so we can help determine whether you are eligible and explain the application process.”

Homeowners who are already receiving the Homestead Exemption **DO NOT** need to reapply.

Clinton County homeowners who have questions about the Homestead Exemption or whether they may qualify are encouraged to contact:

Clinton County Auditor's Office

1850 Davids Drive, Suite 303

Wilmington, Ohio 45177

Phone: (937) 382-2250

Email: auditor@clintoncountyohio.us