Jo Daviess County

Chief County Assessment Office
330 N Bench Street, Ste 1B
Galena IL 61036

Ph. 815.777.1016
email: assessor@jodaviesscountyil.gov
website: www.jodaviesscountyil.gov

APPLICATION FOR SENIOR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Original application must be filed with the Jo Daviess County Assessment Office by: MAY 31, 2026

Parcel No. ___ ___-___ ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ - __ ___ (can be obtained by calling our office)

Owner/Taxpayer Name(s): _____

Property Address _____

Mailing Address _____
City State Zip

Daytime Telephone: _____ Email Address _____

- I have owned and occupied this property since _____ (official recorded instrument date)
- My prior address: _____ ☐ rented ☐ owned
  City State Zip
- If prior property was owned, please provide the sale date: _____

Do you own any other property in the United States? ☐No ☐ Yes

- If yes, the address of the real estate is _____
  City State Zip

***Must provide a copy of the most recent tax bill for each property**

Section 2: Oath I attest that the above address has been my primary residence, that I am the owner of record or have a legal or equitable interest in the property as evidenced by written instrument, and that I am liable for paying the taxes on this property, since the date stated above.

Signature of Owner/Taxpayer 1 _____ **Date of Birth** _____

Signature of Owner/Taxpayer 2 _____ **Date of Birth** _____

A. Taxpayer eligibility. To be eligible for the exemption, the taxpayer must be at least 65 years of age by December 31 of the assessment year**. Be sure to include a copy of your photo ID, and address verification (2 forms of ID required). We only accept an IL Driver's License, or Govt. ID, and a Federal Income return, or an IL Voters registration card as proof. If the property is in a trust, we will need a copy of the trust or a letter from the bank stating beneficial interest. All owners of record should sign the application and show ID, even if one is not 65.**

B. Property eligibility. To be eligible for the exemption:

- The property must be occupied as the primary residence by the eligible taxpayer.
- The eligible taxpayer must be liable for paying the real estate taxes on the property.
- The eligible taxpayer must be an owner of record of the property or have a legal or equitable interest in the property as evidenced by a written instrument. In the case of a leasehold interest in property, the lease must be for a single-family residence. In the case of a life estate, the life estate must have been established by a document recorded with the Jo Daviess County Recorder.

If a homestead exemption has been granted under this Section and the person awarded the exemption subsequently becomes a resident of a facility licensed under the Illinois Nursing Home Care Act or Illinois MR/DD Community Care Act, then the exemption shall continue so long as the residence continues to be occupied by the qualifying person's spouse, or if the residence remains unoccupied but is still owned by the person qualified for the homestead exemption.

C. Application. Application should be filed with the Jo Daviess County Assessment Office by the owner of record (or person holding equitable interest) by May 31 of the assessment year. After initial approval, the exemptions will be renewed automatically. If the property is no longer eligible for the exemption, it is the responsibility of the taxpayer to remove the exemption to avoid possible interest and penalties.

D. Exemption Amount. Under 35 ILCS 200/15-170, qualified taxpayers are permitted an exemption that will remove up to $5,000 from the equalized assessed value before the taxes are calculated.

Official use only. Do not write in this space.

Year _____ **Approved** **Full Year** _____ **Denied** _____

Checked by _____ **Pro-rata** _____

Entered by _____ **Pro-rata exemption date** _____

2026