Jo Daviess County

Chief County Assessment Office
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Galena IL 61036

Ph. 815.777.1016
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website: www.jodaviesscountyil.gov

APPLICATION FOR OWNER-OCCUPIED/GENERAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

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

Section 1: Property Identification (please print)

Taxpayer eligibility. To be eligible for the exemption, the taxpayer/owner of record must occupy the property as of January 1 of the current assessment year **(2026)**.

Property eligibility. To be eligible for the exemption:

• The property must be occupied as the primary residence by the eligible taxpayer. **PROOF OF RESIDENCY MUST BE PROVIDED WITH EXEMPTION APPLICATION**. To qualify, you must provide TWO out of the three documents: An Illinois Driver's License with the property address listed, a Federal Tax return with the property address listed, or an IL Voters Registration Card with the property address listed.

Parcel No. (43) ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ - ___ ___

Owner/Taxpayer Name(s): _____

Mailing Address (w/ City, State, ZIP): _____

Property Address (w/ City, State, ZIP): _____

Daytime Telephone/email: _____

Section 2: Verification Please answer the below questions.

	YES	NO
1. Will you own or have ownership interest in this property as of January 1, 2026?	☐	☐
2. Will you occupy this property as your principal dwelling place as of January 1, 2026?	☐	☐

3. When did you purchase this property (**recorded date on deed**)? _____

4. When did you move in? _____

5. Do you own ANY other real estate ANYWHERE in the United States?

☐ YES (If yes, you MUST provide a copy of the most recent tax bill for each property)

Address of the real estate is: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

☐ NO; this is the only property I/we own.

	YES	NO
6. Do you lease this property?	☐	☐

Section 3: Oath I attest that (applicant must check all applicable boxes)

☐ The above address was occupied by person(s) with legal or equitable interest and was recorded as of January 1, 2026;

☐ The above address has been my primary residence since the date noted in Section 2, #4;

☐ I am the owner of record or have legal or equitable interest in the property as evidence by recorded written legal instrument

☐ I am liable for paying the property taxes on the property, since the date stated above and I do NOT lease my property.

☐ I hereby certify this is to be true and correct reporting of the facts concerning this property.

Signature of Owner/Taxpayer 1: _____ **D.O.B.** _____

Signature of Owner/Taxpayer 2: _____ **D.O.B.** _____

See back for detailed instructions

2026

Instructions

A. Taxpayer eligibility. To be eligible for the exemption, the taxpayer/owner of record must occupy the property as of January 1 of the current assessment year **(2026)**.

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

- The property must be occupied as the primary residence by the eligible taxpayer. PROOF OF RESIDENCY MUST BE PROVIDED WITH EXEMPTION APPLICATION, WE ONLY ACCEPT AN ILLINOIS DRIVER'S LICENSE, A FEDERAL INCOME FORM, OR AN IL VOTERS REGISTRATION CARD AS PROOF. All forms MUST have address listed.
- 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 **recorded written instrument.**

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In the case of a leasehold interest in property, contact the County Assessment Office for the correct application.

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In the case of a life estate, the life estate must have been established by a document recorded by the Jo Daviess County Recorder.

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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.

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C. Application. **Original** application must be filed with the Jo Daviess County Assessment Office by the owner of record (or person holding equitable interest) by **May 31, 2026**. After initial approval, the exemption 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 200/15-175, qualified taxpayers are permitted an exemption that will remove up to $6,000 from the equalized assessed value before taxes are calculated.

2026