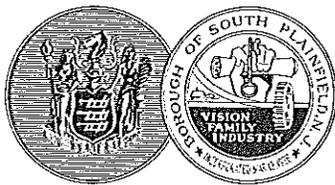


AREA CODE 908

Mayor's Office-226-7601  
Clerk-226-7606  
Assessing-226-7623  
Building Dept.-226-7640  
CFO/Administrator-226-7602  
Computer Services-226-7649  
Emergency Mgmt.-226-7718  
Eng./T&M Assoc.-732-671-6400  
Environmental-226-7621  
Finance-226-7615  
Fire Official-756-4761



## BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

2480 Plainfield Avenue  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

AREA CODE 908

Health-226-7630  
Library-754-7885  
Municipal Court-226-7651  
Plan Bd/Bd. of Adj.-226-7641  
Police-755-0700  
Public Works-755-2187  
Recreation-226-7713  
Recycling-226-7621  
Social Services-226-7625  
Tax/Sewer-226-7610  
Senior Center-754-1047

### Senior Citizen Property Tax Reduction Application

Please complete BOTH forms entirely. The claim form should be completed, signed and dated.

The Income Statement Form should also be completed in its entirety and signed.

You must include PROOF OF AGE along with your application. This can be a copy of your **driver's license** or **birth certificate**.

Return the forms to the **South Plainfield Tax Assessor's office**. The Tax Assessor will review the submitted forms to determine if you are eligible for the *Senior Deduction* for which you are applying.

If you have questions regarding the completion of the forms or eligibility, please contact the Tax Assessor's office at (908) 226-7623, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Thank you.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. **APPLICATION FILING PERIOD** - File this form with the municipal tax assessor from October 1 through December 31 of the pretax year, i.e., the year prior to the calendar tax year or with the municipal tax collector from January 1 through December 31 of the calendar tax year. For example, for a property tax deduction claimed for calendar tax year 2007, the pretax year filing period would be October 1 - December 31, 2006 with the assessor and the tax year filing period would be January 1 - December 31, 2007 with the collector.
  2. **ELIGIBILITY DATES** - Eligibility for the property tax deduction is established in the year prior to the calendar tax year for which the deduction is claimed as follows:
    - New Jersey Citizenship as of October 1 pretax year
    - Property Ownership as of October 1 pretax year
    - Residence in New Jersey and in Dwelling House as of October 1 pretax year and
    - Residence in New Jersey for 1 year immediately prior to October 1 pretax year
    - Senior Citizen Age 65 or more as of December 31 pretax year
    - Permanent and Total Disability as of December 31 pretax year
    - Surviving Spouse/Surviving Civil Union Partner Age 55 or more as of December 31 pretax year and at the time of spouse's/civil union partner's death
  3. **CITIZEN & RESIDENT DEFINED** - United States Citizenship is not required. Resident for purposes of this deduction means a claimant who was legally domiciled in New Jersey for one year immediately prior to October 1 of the pretax year. Domicile is the place you regard as your permanent home - the place you intend to return to after a period of absence. You may have only one legal domicile even though you may have more than one residence. Seasonal or temporary residence in this State, of whatever duration, does not constitute domicile. Absence from the State for a 12 month period is prima facie evidence of abandonment of domicile.
  4. **RESIDENCE IN DWELLING HOUSE DEFINED** - Residence in the dwelling house means the dwelling where a claimant makes his principal or permanent home. Vacation, summer or second homes do not qualify. Only one deduction may be received per principal residence regardless of the number of qualified claimants residing on the premises.
  5. **TENANCY BY ENTIRETY DEFINED** - Tenancy by Entirety means ownership of real property by both husband and wife or civil union partners, as a single ownership, in joint title acquired after marriage/civil union partnership.
  6. **INCOME DEFINED & LIMITED** -
    - a.) The income period is the same tax year as the tax year for which a deduction is claimed.
    - b.) A claimant must reasonably anticipate that income received during the tax year, including income of the claimant's spouse/civil union partner, will not exceed \$10,000. Income of claimant's family members, other than spouse/civil union partner, should not be included as annual income.
    - c.) Income means all income received from whatever source derived including, but not limited to, salaries, wages, bonuses, commissions, tips, and other compensations before payroll deductions, all dividends, interest, realized capital gains, royalties, income from rents, business income, and in their entirety, pension, annuity and retirement benefits. Realized capital gains, except for capital gain from the sale or exchange of real property owned and used by the claimant as his principal residence, dividends, interest, pensions, annuities and retirement benefits must be included in full without deductions even though they may be wholly or partially exempt for Federal income tax purposes.  
**EXCLUDABLE INCOME**\*\*Income can be excluded under ONE of the following three categories: Social Security Benefits or Federal Government Retirement/Disability Pension including Federal Railroad Retirement Benefits or State, County, Municipal Government and their political subdivisions and agencies Retirement/Disability Pension.
- NOTE:** In accordance with the Civil Union Act, eligibility guidelines that apply to married couples and surviving spouses apply equally to civil union couples and surviving civil union partners.

7. **DOCUMENTARY PROOFS REQUIRED** - Each assessor and collector may require such proofs necessary to establish claimant's deduction entitlement and photocopies of any documents should be attached to this form as part of application record. For example: **AGE** may be verified by birth certificate, baptismal record, family Bible, census record, marriage certificate, court record, Social Security record, military record or discharge, immigration document, insurance policy, **DISABILITY** may be verified by physician's certificate, Social Security document, New Jersey Commission for Blind certificate. **SURVIVING SPOUSE/SURVIVING CIVIL UNION PARTNER** by death certificate of decedent. **OWNERSHIP** by deed, executory contract for property purchase, last will and testament. **RESIDENCY** by New Jersey driver's license, motor vehicle registration, voter's registration, State tax return.
8. **ANNUAL POST-TAX YEAR INCOME STATEMENT REQUIRED** - On or before March 1 of the year immediately following the tax year for which deduction was claimed or received, a claimant must file a Post-Tax Year Income Statement, Form PD5, confirming that annual income for the tax year did not exceed the \$10,000 limit and that anticipated annual income for the current year will not exceed that limit and that all other eligibility prerequisites continue to be met. For example, the Post-Tax Year Income Statement filed by March 1, 2008 supports the claim for deduction for tax year 2007 by confirming 2007 income. Anticipated income would refer to income received in tax year 2008 for the 2008 deduction. **IF THIS INCOME STATEMENT IS NOT TIMELY FILED, DEDUCTION WILL BE DISALLOWED AND CLAIMANT WILL BE BILLED FOR THE DEDUCTION AMOUNT.**
9. **APPEALS** - A claimant may appeal any unfavorable determination by the assessor or collector to the County Board of Taxation annually on or before April 1.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
This form is prescribed by the New Jersey Division of Taxation, as required by law, and may be reproduced for distribution, but may not be altered without prior approval.

**CLAIM FOR REAL PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION ON DWELLING HOUSE OF QUALIFIED NEW JERSEY RESIDENT SENIOR  
CITIZEN, DISABLED PERSON, OR SURVIVING SPOUSE/SURVIVING CIVIL UNION PARTNER**  
(N.J.S.A. 54:4-8.40 et seq.; L.1963 c.172 as amended) (N.J.A.C. 18:14-1.1 et seq.); Civil Union Act PL 2006, c.103, effective 2/19/07  
IMPORTANT File this completed claim with your municipal tax assessor or collector. (See instructions on reverse.)

**1. CLAIMANT NAME**

Name(s) of claimant owner(s) permanently residing in dwelling house.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**2. DWELLING LOCATION**

Street Address of resident owner claimant's dwelling. (Unit # if Co-op)

County & Municipality

Block / Lot / Qualifier  
\*\*\*\*\*

**3. YEAR OF DEDUCTION** This deduction is claimed for the tax year \_\_\_\_\_ (indicate tax year).  
\*\*\*\*\*

**4. CITIZEN & RESIDENT (Complete A & B)**  
A.  I was a citizen of New Jersey as of October 1 of the pretax year, i.e., the year prior to the tax year for which deduction is claimed; and  
B.  I was also a legal or domiciliary resident of New Jersey for at least one year immediately prior to October 1 pretax year. See instructions 2 & 3.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**5. OWNER & OCCUPANT**  
 I (my spouse/civil union partner and I, as tenants by entirety), solely owned, held title to above identified dwelling occupied as my (our) principal or permanent residence as of October 1 of the pretax year. See instructions 4 & 5.  
**\*\*Complete 5a only if partial owners**

5a. Name of part owner % ownership interest in property  
**\*\*Complete 5b only if resident-tenant shareholder in Cooperative or Mutual Housing Corporation**

5b. Corporation Name of Cooperative or Mutual Housing

Co-op/M.H. Corp. Street Address	Municipality	State
\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Co-op	
Net Property Tax Amount for Unit	<input type="checkbox"/> Mutual Housing Corp.	

\*\*\*\*\*

**6. ANNUAL INCOME LIMIT (must be reaffirmed by March 1 following year for which deduction was given.)**  
 During the tax year for which the deduction is claimed, I reasonably anticipate that my annual income (and that of my spouse/civil union partner combined) will not exceed \$10,000 after a permitted exclusion of Social Security Benefits, or Federal Government Retirement/Disability Pension, or State, County, Municipal Government and their political subdivisions and agencies Retirement/Disability Pension. See instructions 6 & 8.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**7. BIRTH DATE MARITAL/CIVIL UNION STATUS**  
A. Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
B.  Single  Married/Civil Union Partner  Surviving Spouse/Surviving Civil Union Partner  
 Legally Separated/Divorced/Dissolutioned  
\*\*\*\*\*

**8. SENIOR OR DISABLED CITIZEN OR SURVIVING SPOUSE/SURVIVING CIVIL UNION PARTNER**  
(Choose A, B, or C)  
A.  I was age 65 or more years as of December 31, of the year prior to tax year for which deduction is claimed.  
B.  I was permanently and totally disabled and unable to be gainfully employed as of December 31 of the year prior to the tax year.  
ATTACH PHYSICIAN'S OR SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY OR NEW JERSEY COMMISSION FOR BLIND CERTIFICATE.  
C.  I was a surviving spouse/surviving civil union partner as of October 1 of the year prior to the tax year and have not remarried/entered into a new civil union partnership.  I was age 55 or more as of December 31 of the year prior to the tax year and at time of my spouse's/civil union partner's death. \*\*My deceased spouse/civil union partner at his or her death was receiving a  senior citizen's property tax deduction or a  permanently and totally disabled person's property tax deduction.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**9. REAL PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION OTHER DWELLING** I (and my spouse/civil union partner) did not receive a senior or disabled citizen or surviving spouse/civil union partner (if applicable) property tax deduction on another dwelling for the same tax year except on my (our) former home identified below where I (we) resided from \_\_\_\_\_ month/year to \_\_\_\_\_ month/year.

Street Address Municipality  
\*\*\*\*\*

I certify the above declarations are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and understand they will be considered as if made under oath and subject to penalties for perjury if falsified.

Signature of Claimant Date  
\*\*\*\*\*

OFFICIAL USE ONLY -Block \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_\_\_ Approved in amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age  Disability  Surviving Spouse/Surviving Civil Union Partner of  senior citizen or  disabled person

Assessor Date

Collector Date

**\$250 REAL PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME FORM**

(N.J.S.A. 54:4-8.40 et seq.; N.J.A.C. 18:14-1.1 et seq.)

THE BELOW INCOME DETAIL IS TO ENABLE THE COLLECTOR/ ASSESSOR TO DETERMINE WHICH ITEMS MAY BE EXCLUDED UNDER THE LAW AND TO DETERMINE WHETHER YOU MEET THE INCOME REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW. THE ASSESSOR OR COLLECTOR MAY REQUEST THAT THIS INCOME STATEMENT BE SUBSTANTIATED BY FEDERAL INCOME TAX RECORDS. FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF YOUR SENIOR CITIZEN, DISABLED PERSON, SURVIVING SPOUSE, SURVIVING CIVIL UNION PARTNER PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION.

Re: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's name) (Address)

The undersigned submits the following statement of income to aid in the determination of eligibility for a senior citizen, disabled person, surviving spouse, or surviving civil union partner property tax deduction with respect to premises located at:

\_\_\_\_\_ Block \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_\_\_ Qualifier \_\_\_\_\_  
(County/Municipality)

INCOME FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

**\*NOTE: If married, you must include spouse's income**  
**The tax assessor/collector will determine which of the below items will be EXCLUDED.**

	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Spouse</u>
1. Pension or Retirement (PRIVATE)	\$ _____	\$ _____
2. Salary/Wages/Tips/Bonuses/Commissions	_____	_____
3. Interest	_____	_____
4. Dividends (Ordinary and Qualified)	_____	_____
5. IRA Distributions	_____	_____
6. Capital Gains	_____	_____
7. Business Income	_____	_____
8. Income from Rents/Royalties	_____	_____
9. Unemployment	_____	_____
10. Alimony	_____	_____
11. Other income	_____	_____
12. Social Security Benefits	_____	_____
13. Federal Pension/Railroad Pension	_____	_____
14. State, County, Municipal Pension	_____	_____
15. Disability Benefits	_____	_____
Total Yearly Income (sum of items 1-15)	\$ _____	

<b><u>For Assessor/Collector Use Only</u></b>	
Excludable income \$ _____	Total income after exclusion \$ _____

I certify the above declarations are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and understand they will be considered as if made under oath and subject to penalties for perjury if falsified.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Spouse's signature)