## 22 The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Assessors' Use only State Tax Form 96-4 Date Received Revised 7/2011 Application No. Name of City or Town Parcel Id. **VETERAN** FISCAL YEAR APPLICATION FOR STATUTORY EXEMPTION General Laws Chapter 59, § 5 THIS APPLICATION IS NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION (See General Laws Chapter 59, § 60) Return to: **Board of Assessors** Must be filed with assessors on or before December 15 or 3 months after actual (not preliminary) tax bills are Mailed for fiscal year if later. **INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete the following. Please print or type. **A. IDENTIFICATION.** Complete this section fully. Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Marital Status Telephone Number Legal Residence (Domicile) on July 1, \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address (If different) City/Town Zip Code Street Location of Property: No. of Dwelling Units: 1 2 3 4 Other-Did you own the property on July 1,\_\_\_\_\_\_ ? Yes No Sole Owner Co-owner with Spouse Only Co-owner with Others *If yes, were you:* Was the property subject to a trust as of July 1, ? Yes No If yes, please attach trust instrument including all schedules. Have you been granted any exemption in any other city or town (MA or other) for this year? Yes No *If yes, name of city or town Amount exempted \$* DISPOSITION OF APPLICATION (ASSESSORS' USE ONLY) Ownership \_\_\_ GRANTED Assessed Tax \$ Occupancy DENIED Exempted Tax \$ DEEMED DENIED Status Adjusted Tax \$ Income **Board of Assessors** Assets Date Voted/Deemed Denied Certificate No.

Date:

Date Cert./Notice Sent

Exemption: Clause

<b>B. EXEMPTION STATUS.</b> Check the status that applies to you and complete the questions that follow.			
VETERAN			
VETERAN'S SPOUSE	Veteran's Name		
	Was the property the veteran's domicile as of July 1,?		
	Yes No		
	If no, where does the veteran reside?		
■ VETERAN'S SURVIVING SPOUSE/ PARENT	Deceased Veteran's Name		
	If first year of application, attach copy of death certificate.		
	If you are surviving spouse, have you remarried? Yes No		
Date Enlisted/Inducted	Date Discharged		
Type of Discharge	If first year of application, attach copy of discharge papers.		
Military Decorations or Awards			
Did the veteran live in Massachusetts at least 6 months before entering the service? Yes No			
If no, list places and dates where the veteran was domiciled during the last 6 years. (2 years if local option adopted - See Assessors)			
Address	Dates		
Continue list on attachment in same format as necessary.			
Was the servicemember killed or presumed killed in a combat zone? Yes \to No\to If yes, date of death			
	ate result of a combat injury or disease? Yes No		
If yes and first year of application, (1) attach documentation from U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, branch of service or doctor <u>and</u> (2) list above places and dates surviving spouse lived during the last 6 years (2 years if local option adopted – See Assessors)			
Does the veteran have a service-connected disability	? Yes No		
If yes and first year of application, attach Certificate of Disability from U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs or branch of service.  If yes and exemption granted previously, attach certificate only if disability rating is 100% or has changed.  Has the veteran acquired "specially adapted housing?" Yes No			
		Is the veteran a paraplegic? Yes No	
C SIGNATURE Sign have to complete the applicat	ion		
	me. Under the pains and penalties of perjury, I declare that to the accompanying documents and statements are true, correct and		
Signature	Date		
If signed by agent, attach copy of written authorizati	on to sign on behalf of taxpaver.		

## TAXPAYER INFORMATION ABOUT PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS

**PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS.** You may be eligible to reduce all or a portion of the taxes assessed on your domicile if you meet the qualifications for one of the personal exemptions allowed under Massachusetts law. Qualifications vary, but generally relate to age, ownership, residency, disability, income or assets.

You may be eligible for an exemption if you fall into any of these categories:

- Blind
- Veteran with a service-connected disability
- Surviving spouse

- Minor child of deceased parent
- Senior citizen age 70 and older (65 and older by local option)

More detailed information about the qualifications for each exemption may be obtained from your board of assessors.

**WHO MAY FILE AN APPLICATION.** You may file an application if you meet all qualifications for a personal exemption as of July 1. You may also apply if you are the administrator or executor of a person who qualified for a personal exemption on July 1.

WHEN AND WHERE APPLICATION MUST BE FILED. Your application must be filed with the Board of Assessors by December 15 or 3 months after the actual bills were mailed for the fiscal year, whichever is later. An application is filed when (1) received by the assessors on or before the filing deadline, or (2) mailed by United States mail, first class postage prepaid, to the proper address of the assessors, on or before the filing deadline, as shown by a postmark made by the United States Postal Service. THIS DEADLINE CANNOT BE EXTENDED OR WAIVED BY THE ASSESSORS FOR ANY REASON. IF YOUR APPLICATION IS NOT TIMELY FILED, YOU LOSE ALL RIGHTS TO AN EXEMPTION AND THE ASSESSORS CANNOT BY LAW GRANT YOU ONE.

**PAYMENT OF TAX.** Filing an application does not stay the collection of your taxes. In some cases, you must pay the tax when due to appeal the assessors' disposition of your application. Failure to pay the tax when due may also subject you to interest charges and collection action. To avoid any loss of rights or additional charges, you should pay the tax as assessed. If an exemption is granted and you have already paid the entire year's tax as exempted, you will receive a refund of any overpayment.

**ASSESSORS DISPOSITION.** Upon applying for an exemption, you may be required to provide the assessors with further information and supporting documentation to establish your eligibility. The assessors have 3 months from the date your application is filed to act on it unless you agree in writing before that period expires to extend it for a specific time. If the assessors do not act on your application within the original or extended period, it is deemed denied. You will be notified in writing whether an exemption has been granted or denied.

**APPEAL.** You may appeal the disposition of your application to the Appellate Tax Board, or if applicable, the County Commissioners. The appeal must be filed within 3 months of the date the assessors acted on your application, or the date your application was deemed denied, whichever is applicable. The disposition notice will provide you with further information about the appeal procedure and deadline.