

Property Tax Assistance Program

Franklin County Property Tax Assistance Program Application Instructions

What is the Property Tax Assistance Program?

The Property Tax Assistance Program (PTAP) is a group that assists qualifying seniors or those with a documented permanent disability with onetime financial assistance of partial or full payment of current homeowner property taxes. To be eligible, you must have a temporary or emergency need for assistance and not a chronic inability to pay. Please note that PTAP does not pay any taxes in arrears. Additionally, PTAP provides connections to resources to assist in helping clients pay future taxes. The funds that support PTAP are provided through a limited donation source and a temporary county grant.

Who can apply for Property Tax Assistance Program?

Applicants must be age 60 years or older or be able to provide documentation of permanent disability. The applicant must pay taxes directly to the county treasurer and not through escrow. The property must be owned and occupied by the applicant as their primary residence. The applicant must only own one property.

Applicant must have a household income below 200 percent of the federal poverty level at the time when the applicant applies and not have more than \$10,000 in cash or readily available resources that can be accessed without paying a penalty.

This chart shows the household income for 200 percent of the federal poverty level:

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2024 200% FPL-Monthly	\$2,510	\$3,406	\$4,303	\$5,200	\$6,096	\$6,993	\$7,890	\$8,786
2024 200% FPL-Annual	\$30,120	\$40,880	\$51,640	\$62,400	\$73,160	\$83,920	\$94,680	\$105,440

How do I apply?

You may apply by contacting the Franklin County Auditor's office at (614) 525-4663 or downloading an application online by visiting www.franklincountyauditor.com and clicking "Property Tax Assistance Program" within the "Real Estate" dropdown menu. Completed and signed applications may be submitted by email to PTAP@franklincountyohio.gov or by mail to Franklin County Auditor, 373 S. High St., 21st Fl., Columbus, OH 43215. You must apply by the 3rd Friday of November and April for first and second half. First half applications are due November 17, 2023 and second half applications are due April 19, 2024. The committee may consider late applicants if an emergency such as loss or addition of a household member, job loss, or medical emergency that occurs after this deadline but at least 30 days before the tax deadline. After the initial application, applicants must complete an interview by phone no later than six weeks after the application deadline (this may be adjusted exclusively at the discretion of the interviewer).

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What is the process after I apply?

Once you apply, the Auditor's office will forward your application to the appropriate Property Tax Assistance Program Committee member. They will then contact you to verify and supplement your application. You will also be sent a worksheet including all the information the interviewer will request. You should gather all monthly bills, benefit program information, and any other documentation of income and expenses for all household members in preparation for the interview. Once the needed information has been provided, your information will be forwarded to the PTAP Committee for review. All applicants will be notified of PTAP Committee decisions by email or postal mail.

Who decides if I get an award?

The PTAP Committee is made up of professionals across community agencies and county offices. The decision to approve or deny assistance is made by a majority vote of the PTAP Committee based on available funds, applicant meeting all requirements, nature of the need, and applicant's ability to pay taxes in the future.

All decisions by the PTAP Committee are final. There is no appeals process. You are welcome to re-apply for PTAP assistance in the future.

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FRANKLIN COUNTY PROPERTY TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM APPLICATION

Name					
Note: to be eligible, you must be age sixty or older or have a permanent, documented disability.					
Date of Birth		Age		Are you permanently disabled	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you own the property you are applying for and is it the only property you own?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Do you escrow your taxes (pay them to your mortgage) holder or pay them directly to the Franklin County Treasurer?		<input type="checkbox"/> Escrow <input type="checkbox"/> Directly to Treasurer's Office	
Are you enrolled in the Franklin County Treasurer's monthly Budget Payment Program Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>					
An applicant may not exceed 200% of the federal poverty level (see chart on prior page) and cannot have more than \$10,000 in cash or other readily available savings. Please include all income and cash or cash equivalent benefits (but not SNAP/food stamps) for all household members. The PTAP Committee member will ask for additional details of income and expenses during the follow-up interview.					
Monthly Household Income	\$	Annual Household Income	\$		
Do you have \$10,000 or more in cash or readily available assets that can be accessed without paying a penalty?				Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Please select reason applying for PTAP and any other needs affecting your housing security. You will be asked to discuss this during the follow up screening:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Unexpected Medical Need <input type="checkbox"/> Change in household (e.g., new caretaking duties, death or other departure of household member) <input type="checkbox"/> Job Loss <input type="checkbox"/> Emergent Home Repair Need <input type="checkbox"/> Financial status change that temporarily affects ability to pay property tax <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____					
Street Address					
City, State, Zip Code					
Email Address					
Phone Number		Parcel ID# (if unknown, leave blank)			
Number of People in Household		Number of people in household who earn income			

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Did you or your spouse serve in the U.S. military?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
In the last five years, have all property tax payments been made on time?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	(If no, please explain. This information can be confirmed through the county Treasurer's website.)
You may receive up to the amount due for this half of the tax bill which will be supplied by the Franklin County Auditor and may be awarded a lesser amount. Please indicate amount requested.	Request full amount due this half? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Request lesser amount: \$

By submitting this application, I am acknowledging that I have read and understood the above information. I understand by applying for PTAP that I am not guaranteed that my taxes will be paid. I understand if the tax payment is awarded, payment will be made directly to the Treasurer's office; I will not be receiving any funds or payments directly. I also acknowledge the PTAP committee will be accessing public records related to my taxes and property. Information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

s/ _____ Date _____
Applicant signature (including digital or s/Name) **OR**

s/ _____ Date _____
Signature of FCAO staff who documented applicant's agreement to terms

Office use only:	Hard Copy by mail or in-person	By phone	By email
How was application received:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Received by: _____ Date: _____

The Franklin County Property Tax Assistance Program is made up of the following partner organizations:

- Franklin County Office on Aging
- Franklin County Treasurer
- Franklin County Auditor
- Franklin County Veterans Services
- Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging
- Catholic Social Services
- Concord Counseling Services
- Clintonville-Beechwood Community Resource Center
- St. Stephen's Community House
- Syntero
- Age Friendly Columbus and Franklin County