

Mt. Pleasant School District

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MEASURE K PARCEL TAX

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. I received a refund check last year. Why didn't I receive a check this year?

You receive a refund for the year you apply for the exemption. In the second and following years for which you renew your exemption, the parcel tax charge will not appear on your property tax bill and therefore there is no refund due.

2. Why do I have to renew the exemption every year? I thought it was automatic.

The parcel tax exemption is continuous as long as you renew your exemption. The purpose of the annual renewal is to verify you have not moved or sold your home. If you sell your home, the exemption does not roll over to the new owner. If they are also 65 or over, they must apply for the exemption when they receive their property tax bill. If you move, the parcel is no longer eligible for exemption.

3. Can I receive a refund for previous years' parcel tax bills?

There is no refund for previous years' parcel tax charges. The funds collected through the parcel tax are spent as part of the school district's budget for that year.

4. How do I know if you received my renewal form?

Annual renewal letters can be mailed, faxed, or dropped off in person at the school district office. In order to check on receipt of the renewal letter, seniors are encouraged to call or stop in at the office to verify we have received it. Please allow a couple of weeks after the mailing to allow for processing of returning renewal letters. Parcel numbers are reported to the Santa Clara County Assessors Office after the tax year closes on June 30. Once the report is submitted, additional exemptions cannot be accepted.

5. Why can't I be exempt for all the parcels I own?

The purpose of the senior parcel tax exemption is to give a financial break to seniors who are theoretically on a fixed budget. However, there is no annual income stipulation for qualification for this exemption. Seniors who own more than one parcel in our district are allowed an exemption only for the parcel where their permanent residence is located.

6. I will be out of the area for part of the year. Can I still be exempt?

Senior homeowners who are out of the area for more than 6 months of the year are not considered eligible for the exemption. Seniors who will be out of their house for construction/remodeling would also be considered ineligible if they will be out of their home for more than half of the year.

7. I am a disabled/unemployed/etc. homeowner in your district but I am not 65 yet. Can I be exempt?

Homeowners who are disabled, unemployed, or who are considered to have some other hardship But are not yet 65 can apply for an exemption through our appeal process. Appeals are taken to the Board of Trustees for consideration.

8. My parents is in a nursing home and we rent out the house. They still are the legal owner so can they can be exempt from the parcel tax?

9. My parent is in a nursing home and the house is vacant. Can the parcel still be exempt?

A parcel owned by a senior who is in a nursing home could be considered as ineligible for exemption. However, if the home is vacant and we have been contacted by their family or medical professional who notified us the nursing home placement is considered temporary, notes are added in the comments section and the parcel continues to be exempt.

10. I'm 64. Can I file for an exemption this year?

Only person who are 65 as of July 1 of the current tax year are eligible for an exemption.

11. I own a parcel tax exemption is tied to a particular senior residing at a particular home they own. Seniors with contiguous parcels where a home is located on only one of the parcels can apply for Exemption for the vacant parcel through the Multiple Parcel Exemption (M's) program. For other Taxpayers, a parcel cannot be exempt for the sole reason that it has no structure on it.

12. I'm over 65 but my grandchildren are living with me this year and attending our schools. Can I still be exempt?

A senior is exempt as long as they reside in the home and renew their exemption annually. Additional occupants of the house do not change their exemption status .