

Town of Southborough Senior and Disabled Taxation Aid Fund Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Senior and Disabled Taxation Aid Fund?

The Senior and Disabled Taxation Aid Fund exists to alleviate the property tax burden for Southborough's senior and/or disabled citizens who demonstrate need. The Fund is a 501(c)(3) recognized non-profit under the financial management of the Town of Southborough and was created in 2002 with Town Meeting approval. Determination of aid and administration of the application process is managed by the Taxation Aid Committee comprised of the town's Finance Director/Treasurer-Collector, the Chair of the Board of Assessors and three resident volunteers who are appointed by the Select Board. The Fund depends entirely on voluntary contributions and grants to the fund.

2. Who is eligible for taxation aid?

You must own and currently occupy your residence in Southborough for 5 or more consecutive years. You or your spouse must be a minimum of 65 years of age. Income cannot exceed \$30,000 per individual or \$60,000 for your total household per year. Residents with a "state recognized disability" are also eligible. An application must be submitted for each year that aid is requested.

3. How do you apply for taxation aid?

Applications are available at <https://www.southboroughtown.com/taxation-aid-committee> or contact Brian Ballantine, Southborough Finance Director/Treasurer-Collector at (508) 485-0710 x3009 directly for assistance. Applications are due in the month of February and should be submitted to the Treasurer/Collector's office at the Town House no later than March 1st of each year.

4. How is the award distributed?

For FY2020 and FY2021, recipients were awarded \$750 and \$1000, respectively. Each year, the amount of the award will be evaluated to consider the number of applicants and the financial viability of the Fund. There is a maximum of \$2,500 given to an applicant each year. Residents who receive an award from the Taxation Aid Fund may also receive other grants and abatements. Granted awards will be credited directly to the applicant's real estate tax account for the November tax payment. Applicant must be the owner of the property at distribution.

5. How do I donate to the Taxation Aid Fund?

The Fund depends entirely on voluntary contributions and grants to the fund. You may contribute to this fund by sending a check to the Town of Southborough with Taxation Aid fund in the memo line, online at <https://unipaygold.unibank.com/customerinfo.aspx> and clicking on Senior Taxation Aid, **OR** by checking the box on the back of your property tax bill and adding your contribution to your property tax bill. Donations cannot be less than \$1.00 and are tax deductible.

Please consider making a donation to support members of our community in need!

Any questions, please call Finance Director/Treasurer-Collector Brian Ballantine at the Treasurer/Collector's office at (508) 485-0710 x3009 - Southborough Town House – 17 Common Street – Southborough, MA 01772

Elizabeth Kesselman, Chairperson of the Taxation Aid Committee