



PROPERTY TAX WORK OFF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION - FY 19



A program to permit older residents (60 and up) as well as qualified Vets under 60 years of age to reduce property taxes up to \$1,000 a year by working for the Town of Bellingham.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

SELECTION PROCESS

BENEFIT LIMITS

Age 60 or older as of July 1 of the year in which the application is made

Applicant must meet eligibility requirements

\$10.00 per hour for all positions

Home owners or current spouse

Applicant must have appropriate skills for position

Maximum number of compensated hours worked is 100 per year per single adult

Resident of Bellingham: Own and occupy the property for which Bellingham taxes are paid

Applicant and department head must both agree it is an appropriate match.

Maximum total of combined benefit for homeowner and current spouse is 150 hours or \$1,500.*

In no case shall an applicant's tax reduction be in excess of taxes owed in a given year.

Upon agreement applicant needs to report to Senior Ctr to complete the W4 & I-9 with identification back-up and CORI'd by Town of Bellingham

Level of Town appropriation will determine the maximum number of participants

* Exception-grandfathered couples (Nov 2012 and prior) with no breaks in participating in program

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

TERM OF PROGRAM

HOW TO APPLY

Based upon individual department needs

Program runs from December 1, 2017 through November 30, 2018.

Applications and applicable forms are available at the Bellingham Senior Center

Municipal Departments and School Departments

All applicable paperwork must be completed and submitted to the Senior Center prior to applicant's position starting date.

W2s are issued to the IRS

If you sell your home or change ownership during the tax work off year, PRIOR to closing, Tax Work Off Applicant must notify the Director of the Senior Center. An "Hours Completed" letter must be generated by the supervisor and sent to the Senior Center for follow through by the Director to the Assessors & Tax Collector. Hours completed to not automatically transfer to another property within Bellingham or to any other town.

Monthly Time sheets submitted to supervisor for approval. Signed time sheets are sent or dropped off at the Senior Center by the end of each month.

NOTICE: The United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has ruled that under current federal law the abatement amount **IS INCLUDED** in the taxpayer's gross income for both **FEDERAL INCOME TAX** and Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) tax purposes, however.

NOTICE:
The amount of the property tax reduction earned by the taxpayer under this program is not considered income or wages for purposes of the STATE income tax withholding, unemployment compensation or workmen's compensation.

Letters of Completion of time must be submitted from the supervisor to the Senior Center

In addition, if the community pays the taxpayer's share of FICA taxes, that amount is **ALSO INCOME SUBJECT TO FEDERAL INCOME TAX.**