

Town of Amherst Assessors Office

David C. Marrano SCA -Assessor

5583 Main St.

Williamsville, NY 14221

(716)631-7038

dmarrano@amherst.ny.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHANGES TO ENROLLMENT FOR ENHANCED STAR AND LOW INCOME SENIOR PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

New York State is making changes to how residents over age 65 enroll in the Enhanced STAR program, and also to those residents over age 65 who have both the Enhanced STAR program and the Low Income Senior Exemption.

Changes to New York State law make enrolling in the **Enhanced STAR Income Verification Program (IVP) mandatory** to continue receiving the Enhanced STAR exemption. In future years, you will not be required to renew your Enhanced STAR exemption with the local Assessors office. Part of this year's renewal process will be to enroll in the IVP program.

In addition, **you must apply separately for the Enhanced STAR and Low Income Senior Citizens exemptions.** Those who receive both will have to enroll in the IVP program for Enhanced STAR and then apply for the Low Income Senior at the Amherst Assessors office. This will result in the filing of two forms not the one form previously used. In addition changes are being proposed to the Low Income Senior Exemption that could result in more residents being eligible, and current residents receiving the exemption to get a larger exemption.

The Assessor's office will be mailing all renewals on Enhanced STAR and the Low Income Senior exemption and information regarding enrollment in the IVP program out to effected residents the week of October 7th. This is a bit later than normal in order to account for the changes. As per previous years, all information(Renewals and enrollment in IVP) will be due March 1st, 2019.

To assist the public with the new process, the Assessor's office will be conducting community outreach sessions that will provide provide information and answer questions . These will be held as follows:

October 17th-Eggertsville Snyder Library Branch

4622 Main St.

Session will be held from 1:00PM-2:30PM

October 19th- Town of Amherst Senior Center

370 John James Audubon Parkway

Session will be held from 10:00 AM-11:30PM

We urge you to attend so any questions can be answered. If unable to attend, or if any additional questions, please call the Assessor's Office at (716) 631-7038, or go to the Town of Amherst Web page at www.amherst.ny.us, and go to the Assessors page.