

PROPERTY TAX POSTPONEMENT PROGRAM

FACT SHEET

Eligible California homeowners may postpone payment of all or part of their property taxes through the State Controller's Office (SCO), Property Tax Postponement (PTP) Program.

Eligibility

To qualify, a homeowner must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be at least 62 years of age, or blind, or disabled; and,
- Own and occupy the property as his or her principal place of residence; and,
- Have a total household income of \$31,500 or less; and,
- Have at least 20% equity in the property.

How to Apply

- Complete and return the PTP application to the State Controller's Office.
- The filing period for PTP is **May 15th** through **December 10th** of each year.

How to Postpone Payment of Property Taxes

- Approved claimants receive "Certificates of Eligibility."
- "Certificates of Eligibility" must be endorsed and mailed to the County Tax Collector.
- County Tax Collectors accept "Certificates of Eligibility" as payment of property taxes.
- The State Controller's Office pays the property taxes on the applicant's behalf.

When Repayment is Required

The postponed property taxes accrue interest each month, however, repayment is not required until one of the following occurs:

- The homeowner moves;
- The home is sold;
- The homeowner dies and title passes to an ineligible person; or,
- A senior lien (i.e. a mortgage) becomes delinquent.

Note: The State Controller's Office records a lien against the property to secure repayment of the postponed property taxes.

Contact Information

To obtain more information about the Property Tax Postponement Program or to request a PTP booklet that includes an application and instructions:

- Visit the SCO web-site at www.sco.ca.gov (click on SCO Services, then Tax Information);
- Call the SCO at (800) 952-5661 or (916) 327-5587;
- E-mail the SCO at postponement@sco.ca.gov; or,
- Write the SCO at P. O. Box 942850, Sacramento, CA 94250-5880.

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