



State of New Jersey
Department of the Treasury

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First Senior Freeze Checks on the Way
Applications will be accepted until Aug. 2

TRENTON – The New Jersey Division of Taxation began mailing 2009 Property Tax Reimbursement (Senior Freeze) checks to senior and disabled homeowners today, state Treasurer Andrew Sidamon-Eristoff announced.

“Checks for the Senior Freeze program will average a little more than \$1,100 this year,” the Treasurer said. “Governor Christie has kept his promise to protect this program, even in the most difficult economic times since the Great Depression.”

The Division today mailed out 109,000 checks to applicants who filed by June 1. Applicants who filed after June 1 will receive checks as the state processes their applications. Applicants originally had until June 1 to file for the senior freeze benefit this year, but Governor Chris Christie extended the deadline to Aug. 2 to make it easier for all eligible residents to apply.

Anyone who received a Senior Freeze check last year will get one in 2010 as long as the applicant didn't see a rise in income above \$70,000 in 2009 and meets all other routine eligibility requirements, Sidamon-Eristoff said. The state budget limits reimbursements to the amount the applicant received last year.

New applicants — those who did not file an application in 2009 or who filed an application that was not approved for payment — will not receive reimbursement payments this year. However, every person who meets the age and income requirements should file, the Treasurer urged. An application establishes 2008 as the “base year” for property tax calculations. If reimbursements are fully funded in future budgets, filing could bring an applicant a higher payment.

“Applications that leave out information or don’t include required documentation delay thousands of filings every year,” Sidamon-Eristoff said. “The sooner qualified homeowners return the necessary information and/or documentation to us, the sooner we can process their applications and send them their checks,” Sidamon-Eristoff said.

Applicants with questions may call the Property Tax Reimbursement Hotline at 1-800-882-6597. Information about the program is also available on the Division of Taxation’s website at www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/2009ptr_seniorfreeze.shtml.