

CITY OF BUFFALO
DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION
Exemption Office, Room 105 City Hall
65 Niagara Square, Buffalo, New York 14202
Telephone: 716-851-4374

ALTERNATIVE VETERAN'S EXEMPTION

INFORMATION

Eligible Active Wartime Service during the Following Periods:

Persian Gulf	August 2, 1990	To	(open)	
Panama	December 20, 1989	To	January 31, 1990	*
Lebanon	June 1, 1983	To	December 1, 1987	*
Grenada	October 23, 1983	To	November 21, 1983	*
Vietnam	February 28, 1961	To	May 7, 1975	
Korea	June 27, 1950	To	January 31, 1955	
World War II	December 7, 1941	To	December 31, 1946	
Cold War Veteran	September 2, 1945	To	December 26, 1991	

(* in conflict areas only)

To qualify for the exemption:

- the veteran must have been discharged or released under honorable conditions
- the veteran must reside on the property as his/her primary residence.

Also eligible for exemption are:

- Veterans who were awarded either an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, or a Navy and Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal and were discharged or released under honorable conditions; or
- Employed by the War Shipping Administration or Office of Defense Transportation or their agents as a merchant seaman documented by the United States Coast Guard or Department of Commerce; or
- As a civil servant employed by the United States Army Transport Service (later redesignated as the United States Army Transportation Corps, Water Division) or the Naval Transportation Service.

Generally, reservists who engaged only in active duty for training or who were activated for only short periods of time are not eligible for the alternative veteran's exemption. However, reservists who were activated during a period of war and who performed significant, full-time active duty may qualify.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 1

TO FILE: Submit Signed Application Form with Copies of the Following Documents:

- Copy of Deed to property
- Copy of Marriage Certificate (required only if property is owned by spouse of veteran together with proof that veteran resides on premises)
- Copy of DD Form 214
- If veteran is deceased, include a copy of the death certificate
- Proof of residency (one or more of the following may be required)
 - Copy of cable TV bill
 - Copy of automobile insurance policy showing residency
 - Copy of current telephone bill
- (If eligible), a copy of service-connected disability letter from the Veteran's Administration. Letter must show percent of disability.

SUBMIT ONLY LEGIBLE PHOTOCOPIES OF THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS. THE APPLICATION AND ALL DOCUMENTATION WILL BE RETAINED ON FILE. KEEP ORIGINALS FOR YOUR PERSONAL FILES.

If you do not have a copy of the required DD Form 214:

**A copy may be on file in the
Erie County Clerk's Office
25 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo NY 14202**

**(If not on file in the Clerk's Office), write to:
National Personnel Records Center
Military Personnel Records
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63132**

(Include your dates of service and your military service number)

A copy of the DD Form 214 may also be obtained on line at:

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/get-service-records.html>

"Qualified Owner" means a veteran, the spouse of a veteran or the un-remarried surviving spouse of a veteran. Where property is owned by more than one qualified owner, the exemption to which each is entitled may be combined.

"Service Connected" means, with respect to disability or death, that such disability was incurred or aggravated, or that the death resulted from a disability incurred or aggravated, in the line of duty in the active military, naval or air service. Proper documentation required.

REMEMBER:

If you served during the defined periods, you earned it and you are eligible.

The exemption is based on eligibility for your service to your Country during a period of war.

This is not an income-based exemption.

If you are eligible, you must file for the exemption.

It is not automatic.