CLAIM FOR PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION ON DWELLING OF DISABLED VETERAN OR SURVIVING SPOUSE/CIVIL UNION OR DOMESTIC PARTNER OF DISABLED VETERAN OR SERVICEPERSON

(N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 et seq.; N.J.A.C. 18:28-1.1 et seq.)

IMPORTANT: File this completed claim with your municipal tax assessor. (See General Guidelines)

1. CLAIMANT NAME

_____

Name(s) of veteran claimant owner (& spouse, as tenants by entirety, or civil union or domestic partner) or of surviving spouse/civil union or domestic partner permanently residing in dwelling.

2. DWELLING LOCATION

_____

Street Address of claimant owner's principal residence Phone # Email

_____

County Municipality

_____

Block Lot Qualifier

3. DISABLED VETERAN/SURVIVING SPOUSE/CIVIL UNION OR DOMESTIC PARTNER OF DISABLED VETERAN OR SERVICEPERSON (Check A, B, or C)

A. ☐ Honorably discharged disabled veteran with active wartime service in United States Armed Forces. ATTACH copy DD214.

B. ☐ Surviving spouse/civil union or domestic partner of honorably discharged disabled veteran with active wartime service in United States Armed Forces; **and**
☐ I have not remarried/formed a new registered civil union or domestic partnership.
ATTACH copy DD214.

C. ☐ Surviving spouse/civil union or domestic partner of serviceperson who died on wartime active duty in the United States Armed Forces; **and**
☐ I have not remarried/formed a new registered civil union or domestic partnership.
ATTACH copy Military Notification of Death.

4. ACTIVE WAR TIME SERVICE PERIOD (Check All Applicable Service Periods)

A.	☐	World Trade Center Rescue & Recovery	September 11, 2001	-	May 30, 2002
B.	☐	Operation Northern/Southern Watch	August 27, 1992	-	March 17, 2003
C.	☐	Operation Iraqi Freedom	March 19, 2003	-	Ongoing
D.	☐	Operation Enduring Freedom	September 11, 2001	-	Ongoing
E.	☐	"Joint Endeavor/Joint Guard" - Bosnia & Herzegovina	November 20, 1995	-	June 20, 1998
F.	☐	"Restore Hope" Mission - Somalia	December 5, 1992	-	March 31, 1994
G.	☐	Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm Mission	August 2, 1990	-	February 28, 1991
H.	☐	Panama Peacekeeping Mission	December 20, 1989	-	January 31, 1990
I.	☐	Grenada Peacekeeping Mission	October 23, 1983	-	November 21, 1983
J.	☐	Lebanon Peacekeeping Mission	September 26, 1982	-	December 1, 1987
K.	☐	Vietnam Conflict	December 31, 1960	-	May 7, 1975
L.	☐	Lebanon Crisis of 1958	July 1, 1958	-	November 1, 1958
M.	☐	Korean Conflict	June 23, 1950	-	January 31, 1955
N.	☐	World War II	September 16, 1940	-	December 31, 1946

NOTE-Wartime service criteria for the 100% Disabled Veteran's Property Tax Exemption was amended by law January 16, 2018 and was effective immediately. Wartime service in a specified geographic location for a minimum number of days is no longer required. If the veteran was on active duty during any of the statutory service periods listed above, he or she meets the wartime service criterion for exemption. Other requirements, such as honorable discharge, property ownership, disability, etc., are unchanged. This amendment does not apply to the $250 Veteran's Property Tax Deduction. **(*Refer to the general guidelines for additional information.)**

5. **DISABILITY** (Complete A and check B or C)

A. ☐ Date V.A. determined 100% permanently and totally disabled_____.

B. ☐ Wartime service-connected disability declared to be a total or 100% permanent disability, and not so evaluated solely because of hospitalization or surgery and recuperation, sustained through enemy action, or accident, or resulting from disease contracted while in such service.

C. ☐ Wartime service-connected disability rated unemployable with payment of 100% and stated to be totally and permanently disabled.

6. **OWNERSHIP & OCCUPANCY** (Complete A and B)

A. ☐ I (my spouse/civil union partner & I, as tenants by entirety), solely own or hold legal title to the above dwelling house. Partial owners: I (as joint tenant/tenant in common) own _____%. Grantee (buyer) _____ name per deed. Deed Date _____.

B. ☐ The dwelling house is One-Family and I occupy all of it as my principal residence. **OR**

☐ The dwelling house is Multi-Unit and I occupy_____% as my principal residence.

7. **CITIZEN & RESIDENT** (Complete A or B)

A. ☐ As of_____(insert date - month/day/year), I, the above named veteran claimant was a citizen and legal or domiciliary resident of New Jersey.

B. ☐ As of_____(insert date - month/day/year), I, the above named surviving spouse/civil union or domestic partner claimant was a citizen and legal or domiciliary resident of New Jersey; **and**

☐ My deceased veteran or serviceperson spouse/civil union or domestic partner was a citizen and resident of New Jersey at death.

I certify the above declarations are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and understand they will be considered as if made under oath and subject to penalties for perjury if falsified.

_____

Signature of claimant Date

USE ONLY – Block _____ Lot _____ Qualifier _____ ☐Approved ☐ Disallowed
Assessor_____ Date _____

GENERAL GUIDELINES

APPLICATION FILING PERIOD

File this form with the municipal tax assessor at any time during the tax year. Partial or prorated exemption is permitted for the remainder of any taxable year from the date ownership or title to the dwelling house is acquired provided all other eligibility requirements are met. For example, where application is filed on June 1st of the tax year for exemption on a dwelling house acquired on February 14th of the tax year, the assessed value is to be prorated for taxation purposes so that 44/365th's of the total assessment would be taxable and 321/365th's would be exempt.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A. Disabled Veteran Claimant (must meet all 5 requirements)
   1. have had active war time service in United States Armed Forces and been honorably discharged;
   2. have a United States Veterans Administration certification of wartime service-connected disability as described under #5 on front of this DVSSE Claim;
   3. wholly or partially own or hold legal title to the dwelling house for which exemption is claimed;
   4. occupy the dwelling house as the principal residence;
   5. be a citizen and legal or domiciliary resident of New Jersey.

B. Surviving Spouse/Civil Union or Domestic Partner Claimant (must meet all 6 requirements)
   1. document that the deceased veteran or serviceperson was a citizen and resident of New Jersey at death who had active wartime service in the United States Armed Forces and who was honorably discharged or who died on active wartime duty;
   2. document that the deceased veteran had V. A. certified wartime service-connected disability;
   3. not have remarried/formed a new registered civil union or domestic partnership;
   4. wholly or partially own or hold legal title to the claimed dwelling house;
   5. occupy the dwelling house as the principal residence;
   6. be a citizen and legal or domiciliary resident of New Jersey.

****NOTE -** Claimants must inform the assessor of any change in status which may affect their continued entitlement to the exemption.

DWELLING HOUSE & CURTILAGE DEFINED

Dwelling house means any one-family building or structure or unit in a horizontal property regime or condominium or multiple-family building or structure on that portion occupied by the claimant as his legal residence including any outhouses or appurtenances used for the dwelling's fair enjoyment. Curtilage means the enclosed space of ground and buildings immediately surrounding the dwelling house and enjoyed with it for its more convenient occupation.

DISABILITY DEFINED - means a wartime service-connected disability as described under #5 on front of this claim and certified as such by the United States Veterans Administration.

VETERAN DEFINED - means any New Jersey citizen and resident honorably discharged from active wartime service in the United States Armed Forces. **For assistance in documenting veterans' status, contact the NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs at (609) 530-6958 or (609) 530-6854. The United States Veterans Administration can be reached at 1-800-827-1000.**

SURVIVING SPOUSE/CIVIL UNION OR DOMESTIC PARTNER DEFINED - means the lawful widow or widower/civil union or domestic partner of a disabled veteran or serviceperson who has not remarried/formed a new registered civil union or domestic partnership.

ACTIVE SERVICE TIME OF WAR DEFINED - means military service during one or more of the specific periods listed under #4 on front of this claim. Active duty for training or field training purposes as a member of a reserve component does NOT constitute active service time of war unless activated into Federal military service by Presidential or Congressional order.

CITIZEN AND RESIDENT DEFINED

United States Citizenship is not required. Resident for purposes of this exemption means an individual who is legally domiciled in New Jersey. Domicile is the place you regard as your permanent home - the place you intend to return to after a period of absence. You may have only one legal domicile even though you may have more than one place of residence. Seasonal or temporary residence in this State, of whatever duration, does not constitute domicile. Absence from the State for a 12 month period is prima facie evidence of abandonment of domicile.

DOCUMENTARY PROOFS REQUIRED - Each assessor may require such proofs necessary to establish claimant's exemption entitlement and copies of any documents should be attached to DVSSE Claim as part of the application.

MILITARY RECORDS - Certificate of Honorable Discharge or Release, Form DD214, or Military Notification of Death or Certification of United States Veterans Administration.

DISABILITY - Veterans Administration Certification of Disability.

SURVIVING SPOUSE/CIVIL UNION OR DOMESTIC PARTNER - Death Certificate of Decedent, marriage license/civil union or domestic partnership registration certificate.

OWNERSHIP - real property deed, executory contract for property purchase, or Probated Last Will and Testament if by devise, or if intestate or without a will give names and relationships of decedent's heirs-at-law.

RESIDENCY - New Jersey driver's license or motor vehicle registration, voter's registration, etc.

APPEALS - A claimant may appeal any unfavorable determination by the assessor to the County Board of Taxation annually on or before April 1.

RETROACTIVE REFUNDS- Although, statute 54:4-3.32 states that the governing body of each municipality, at its discretion, may return all taxes collected on property which would have been exempt had proper claim in writing been made. Please remember that retroactive refunds cannot be made prior to the date of the new enactment, which was January 16, 2018.