

Basic STAR Changes:

New legislation requires all homeowners receiving a Basic STAR exemption to re-register with the New York State Tax Department in order to receive this exemption in 2014 and subsequent years. (Re-registration is one-time only)

This is part of a new initiative to protect New Yorkers against the costs of inappropriate, multiple, or fraudulent STAR exemptions.

Senior Citizens

The registration will only apply to Basic STAR recipients. Seniors receiving Enhanced STAR are not affected by the new registration requirement.

Seniors must, however, continue to:

- apply annually, or
- participate in the Income Verification Program.

Penalties

To support the registration effort, the following new penalties, sanctions, and fees have been enacted:

- penalties for intentionally providing misinformation to an assessor will increase from \$100 to as much as \$2500
- the number of years for which a taxpayer must repay inappropriate STAR benefits will increase from three to as many as six years
- taxpayers whose STAR exemption is revoked will be unable to receive the exemption for six years after the revocation
- an additional \$500 processing fee will be imposed whenever an inappropriate exemption granted after April 1, 2013 is revoked

The processing fees and penalties will be retained by local governments, while the State will recover the value of the STAR benefits provided to ineligible taxpayers.

For more information or to re-register:

Go to... <http://www.tax.ny.gov/>

Or call (518) 457-2036

- Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 8:00 pm
- Saturday, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

