

## WHAT IS AN EXEMPTION?

An exemption is a release from the obligation to pay all or a portion of the taxes assessed on a parcel of property.

The Clause 37A\* blind exemption provides assistance to those taxpayers who are legally blind and meet the listed Residency Requirements.

## WHAT IS THE EXEMPTION AMOUNT?

Taxpayers who are eligible for Clause 37A will receive a \$500 reduction on their tax liability.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

Applications must be filed annually with the Board of Assessors, within three months of the mailing of the Third Quarter Tax Bill. The Third Quarter Tax Bill is mailed in December of each year.

**Renewals:** If you were granted an exemption last year, the Board of Assessors will send you a renewal application. However, it is your responsibility to ensure that a renewal is filed each year. Proof of blindness must be provided each year.

**New Applications** If you think you qualify, notify the Board of Assessors at (781) 431-1019 ext. 2272

Supporting documentation, including a certificate of eligibility from the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind and all other materials, which help the Board of Assessors make a determination, will be requested.

As a reminder, the filing of an application does not mean you can postpone the payment of your tax.

## REQUIREMENTS:

- ❖ Declared legally blind as of July 1 of the tax year
- ❖ Applicant must be registered with and obtain certificate from the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind as of July 1, or present a letter from their physician stating that the applicant was legally blind as of July 1
- ❖ Owned and occupied the property as of July 1 of the tax year

If you checked each of the preceding, you may be eligible for a Clause 37A exemption

\*Massachusetts General Laws:  
Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 37A

## FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE

The staff of the Board of Assessors is available to assist in answering any questions or concerns about your property tax assessment.

**Board of Assessors  
Town Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
525 Washington Street  
Wellesley, MA 02482**

**(781) 431-1019 ext. 2272**

**Web Address**  
[www.wellesleyma.gov](http://www.wellesleyma.gov)

**Monday – Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

# CLAUSE 37A BLIND

**FY2012**

## STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS

Taxpayer Information Guide



**TOWN OF WELLESLEY  
BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

(Rev 07/11)