

Measure MB: Academics and Teacher Protection Measure Frequently Asked Questions About Optional Senior Exemption

The Board of Education has placed Measure MB, a local funding measure for Manhattan Beach public schools, on the June 2018 ballot for voter consideration. The measure requires a super majority of 67% voter approval to pass.

The Board of Education included an optional exemption from the proposed annual flat tax of \$225 per parcel for homeowners age 65+. ([Click here for more details about Measure MB.](#))

If Measure MB hasn't been voted on yet, why is the District making exemption forms available now?

Should Measure MB be approved by voters, the District will have a very short window between the June 5 election and the deadline to notify the County Tax Assessor's Office of all exemptions. Therefore, the District is being proactive in making senior homeowners aware of the measure and the process to file for the optional exemption before Measure MB has been voted on, so that, should Measure MB pass, eligible residents will have had ample time for exemption applications to be received.

Who is eligible for the Senior Exemption?

Property owners age 65+, many of whom are on fixed incomes, are eligible for a full exemption from Measure MB and do not have to pay. To qualify for a senior exemption for the parcel tax for a single-family residence, you must (1) be 65 years of age or older on or before June 30 of the fiscal year immediately preceding the year in which the tax would apply, and (2) own and occupy your residence

If married, do both homeowners need to be 65+ to qualify for exemption?

No, if one resident of the household is 65 or older, the entire household is exempt.

Is there an income requirement for senior citizens to claim an exemption?

No. The only requirement is proof of age and residency.

Do senior citizens have to apply annually for exemption?

No. Senior citizens need only apply the first year as long as the parcel continues to serve as the primary place of residence for the property owner.

What is the application process for senior exemptions?

The District takes the privacy and use of your personal information very seriously. MBUSD has provided a form to apply for an exemption that, once complete, may be mailed or delivered to the District by July 6, 2018. It will require proof of age (via driver's license, birth certificate or passport) and proof of residency.

How are applications processed?

All information submitted to the District is reviewed for completeness and forwarded to NBS, a firm that specializes in administering tax related programs. NBS will review all applications, approve or deny them, and send notifications directly to the applicants.

How can I be assured privacy of information is protected?

No electronic files other than the name and contact information of the applicant will be stored by the District – once sent to NBS, these files will be deleted from the District's network. Once NBS confirms receipt of the application, the District will shred the original hard copy.

- **REDACTING:** As an applicant, you may cross out (redact) all but the first few letters/numbers on your identification and proof of residence documents (e.g., account numbers, driver's license numbers, balance amounts, etc.) to further protect your privacy.
- **REQUIRED INFORMATION:** The information that must be shown in full is the applicant's name, address, and date of birth – this information is necessary to verify the applicant's eligibility for the exemption.

• **PROCESSING & DESTROYING INFORMATION:** Once applications are received at the District Office, the name and contact information of the applicant will be recorded. The application will be scanned and transmitted to NBS. The files are saved electronically in the NBS database. NBS uses industry standard network security including antivirus software, intrusion monitoring systems, and modern firewall technologies to protect the data stored in their systems in order to protect data in their files.

What is the deadline to file an exemption application?

The deadline to file an exemption application is July 6th, 2018.

Are there other optional exemptions available?

Yes, optional exemptions exist for State Disability Insurance and Social Security Disability Insurance recipients.

To qualify for a Supplemental Security Income exemption for the parcel tax for a single-family residence, you must (1) be receiving SSI for a disability, regardless of age, and (2) own and occupy your residence.

To qualify for a Social Security Disability Insurance exemption for the parcel tax for a single-family residence, you must (1) be receiving SSDI benefits, regardless of age, (2) not have yearly income that exceeds 250 percent of the 2012 federal poverty guidelines issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and (3) own and occupy your residence.

Do I need to submit a SSI/SSDI exemption application every year?

Yes. In the case of those persons receiving SSI or SSDI benefits, since they are income-based benefits and income can change year over year, an application must be filed each year.

Where does the money go?

Should Measure MB receive 67% support by Manhattan Beach voters on the June 5, 2018 ballot, these funds will be used to provide reliable funding for Manhattan Beach public schools that cannot be taken by the State. Specifically, Measure MB funds would be used to maintain high quality core programs in math, science, reading, writing, language, social studies, technology, engineering, art and music, and retain highly qualified teachers, with *no* proceeds used for administrators' salaries, benefits, or pensions.

I occupy multiple residences which are located on different parcels. Can I receive an exemption for all of them?

Only one parcel -- your primary residence -- may be claimed.

If you have any additional questions on the process please contact us at 310.318.7345, extension 5944.