



# GOVERNOR JOSH SHAPIRO

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**As Property Tax/Rent Rebate Checks Go Out Today, Governor Shapiro and Secretary Browne Visit Senior Center in Lackawanna County and Remind Eligible Pennsylvanians to Apply**

*After receiving bipartisan support in the General Assembly, legislation signed by Governor Shapiro expanded the Property Tax/Rent Rebate program to deliver the largest targeted tax cut for seniors in nearly two decades.*

*Starting today, the Department of Revenue will distribute over 442,000 rebates totaling \$266 million on property taxes and rent paid in 2023 – and all eligible Pennsylvanians are encouraged to apply.*



**Dunmore, PA** — Today, **Governor Josh Shapiro** and **Secretary of Revenue Pat Browne** visited the Robert Dougherty Dunmore High Rise in Lackawanna County to announce that rebates on property taxes and rent paid in 2023 as part of the [Property Tax/Rent Rebate \(PTRR\) program](#) are starting to be distributed today, Monday, July 1, 2024, as required by law.

Governor Shapiro made a commitment to Pennsylvania seniors to ease the burden of rising costs – and the Governor delivered on that promise in August, [signing into law](#) a historic expansion of the PTRR program for the first time in nearly 20 years.

“I’ve heard from seniors about how they’re struggling with rising costs – and the Property Tax/Rent Rebate program is a lifeline for them and Pennsylvanians with disabilities. I made a promise to cut costs and deliver for Pennsylvanians – and in my first year in office, we worked together with bipartisan compromise to get this done,” said **Governor Josh Shapiro**. “Over 442,000 rebates will begin to go out today – including to over 9,400 people here in Lackawanna County – but there are at least 125,000 more Pennsylvanians who are eligible but haven’t applied. I want everyone who is eligible to get this money, so go to [pa.gov/PTRRtoday](http://pa.gov/PTRRtoday) to apply by December 31.”

This initial distribution includes over **442,000** rebates totaling **\$266 million** – critical relief that is going to older homeowners, renters, and people with disabilities across Pennsylvania. This is a significant increase from last year, when 283,468 homeowners and renters were issued rebates totaling nearly \$132 million as part of the initial distribution.

Pennsylvanians who submitted their bank account information on their application forms will receive their rebates through direct deposit. Pennsylvanians who requested a paper check to be mailed to them should expect to receive their payment in the mail.

After the initial distribution of rebates starting today, rebates will be distributed as claims are received and processed. Governor Shapiro also recently announced that the deadline for older adults and Pennsylvanians with disabilities to apply for rebates on rent and property taxes paid in 2023 has been [extended to December 31, 2024](#).

The Department of Revenue (DOR) has already processed and approved 93% of PTRR applications for payment. The remaining claims yet to be approved either have errors or may require more information – if you receive outreach from DOR, Pennsylvanians are encouraged to respond as soon as possible in order to get their application approved so they can receive their rebate in a timely manner.

“One of the prime reasons why the Governor’s leadership was really important on this – working with Senator Flynn and the rest of General Assembly – is the losses over the last 20 years have been significant, because for 20 years the program wasn’t adjusted,” said **Secretary Pat Browne**. “That was unacceptable to Governor Shapiro and because

of his leadership, the number of seniors getting relief will be up to over 550,000 seniors once again.”

While visiting the Robert Dougherty Dunmore High Rise, Governor Shapiro and Secretary Browne were joined by first-time PTRR recipient Joann Rinaldi, United States Congressman Matt Cartwright, State Senator Marty Flynn, Dunmore Mayor Max Conway, and Executive Director of the Lackawanna County Housing Pat Padula.

“I have lived in the Dunmore High Rise for the last ten years. I am grateful that Governor Shapiro and the state legislature raised the income limits and expanded the Property Tax Rent Rebate program. Thanks to the expansion, I qualified for the rent rebate program for the first time this year,” said **first-time PTRR recipient Joann Rinaldi**. “I am glad to say that my check is on the way, and many people in this building have received their rebate already. I plan to put the extra money towards my upcoming vehicle inspection, gas, and grocery items. I encourage anyone over the age of 65 who is eligible to apply for this rebate.”

“I applaud Governor Shapiro for leading this historic expansion of the Property Tax/Rent Rebate program, the largest targeted tax cut for seniors in nearly two decades,” said **U.S. Representative Matt Cartwright (PA-08)**. “Thanks to the Governor’s dogged efforts, and with bipartisan support, the Shapiro administration is providing meaningful relief to seniors right here in Northeastern Pennsylvania.”

“I came into office as a state representative back in 2013 – and year in and year out, I would see people come into my office about the rent rebate and I would see them miss qualifying for the rebate by \$20, by \$100. This is probably one of the first times where I felt like we’ve really accomplished something to change people’s lives,” said **Senator Marty Flynn**. “It was no easy lift, as the Governor could tell you, but we actually got it done with common sense, knowing that that people are struggling day in and day out. It’s great to be with the Governor to see our tax dollars at work – and let’s not forget, this \$260 million is going back into the economy because this money is going to be spent by Pennsylvanians in Pennsylvania, and that’s going to help stimulate the economy.”

“For too long, our seniors struggled to keep up with their property taxes and rent. And for too long, politicians only talked about helping them out,” said **Representative Kyle Mullins**. “But thanks to the leadership of Gov. Shapiro and area legislators, more money is now going back into the pockets of many more senior citizens who deserve and need it. Today is a proud day for Pennsylvania.”

“Governor Shapiro’s Property Tax/Rent Rebate program is a testament to his dedication to ensuring that everyone, especially our seniors, those with disabilities, and those on fixed incomes, can afford to stay in their homes,” said **Dunmore Mayor Max Conway**. “Whether it’s through programs like the Property Tax/Rent Rebate program, or his work pushing for faster permitting for businesses and professional licensing, or grant opportunities that were previously unavailable, Governor Shapiro is bringing real results to people in Dunmore and throughout the Commonwealth.”

“Lackawanna Housing is committed to enhancing quality of life for our seniors and for people with disabilities, ensuring they have the community centers and living space that help them live comfortable and fulfilling lives,” said **Pat Padula, Executive Director of the Lackawanna County Housing Authority**. “I’m pleased to stand with our leaders – the Governor and Secretary Browne – to follow through on a big win and help provide financial relief for our seniors through the property tax rebate program.”

### **Cutting Costs for Pennsylvanians**

Thanks to the expansion of the PTRR program signed into law by Governor Shapiro, more Pennsylvanians now qualify and the vast majority who qualified in prior years will see their rebates increase. The expansion:

- Increases the maximum standard rebate to \$1,000.
- Increases the income cap for both homeowners and renters to \$45,000.
- Increases the income cap to grow with inflation each year moving forward.

### **PTRR Eligibility/How to File**

The PTRR program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The table below shows how much homeowners and renters who fit this criteria are eligible for, depending on their income:

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>MAX STANDARD REBATE</b>
\$0 - \$8000	\$1,000
\$8,001 - \$15,000	\$770
\$15,001 - \$18,000	\$460
\$18,001 - \$45,000	\$380

Submitting your application through [myPATH](#) is easy and does not require you to sign up for an account. Filing online gives you instant confirmation that your claim has been successfully filed. Applicants also will have access to automatic calculators and other helpful features that are not available through the paper application. Other application resources include:

- An [online Spanish application](#) on myPATH for Spanish-speaking applicants.
- Free application and assistance is available at hundreds of locations across the state: [DOR district offices](#), [local Area Agencies on Aging](#), and state legislators' offices.

- A [new lookup tool](#) – created by DOR and the Commonwealth Office of Digital Experience (CODE PA) – on DOR’s website to help applicants find in-person assistance in their communities.
- To check the status of your rebate, use the [Where's My Rebate?](#) tool. To check on the status of your claim, you will need your Social Security number, claim year, and date of birth. You must reapply for a rebate every year as they are based on annual income and property taxes or rent paid during the prior year.

For more information and to access PTRR forms/instructions, visit [pa.gov/ptrr](http://pa.gov/ptrr) or call 1-888-222-9190 for assistance and click [here](#) to view the new lookup tool to find in-person assistance.

For more information on how Governor Shapiro’s budget will cut costs for Pennsylvanians, click [here](#).