

GOVERNOR JOSH SHAPIRO

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Governor Shapiro and Secretary Browne Announce \$258 Million Headed to Seniors and Pennsylvanians with Disabilities Starting July 1st as 2024 Property Tax/Rent Rebate Checks Go Out

In the initial distribution, roughly 425,000 rebates totaling \$258 million for property taxes and rent paid in 2024 will be distributed to Pennsylvania seniors and people with disabilities.

This financial relief comes as a result of Governor Shapiro's work to secure a bipartisan expansion of the <u>Property Tax/Rent Rebate program</u> — delivering the largest targeted tax cut for seniors in nearly two decades and putting money back in their pockets.



Harrisburg, PA — Today, **Governor Josh Shapiro** and **Secretary of Revenue Pat Browne** visited the East Shore YMCA in Dauphin County to announce that rebates on property taxes and rent paid in 2024 as part of the **Property Tax/Rent Rebate (PTRR) program** will start to be distributed tomorrow, July 1, 2025, as required by law.

This initial distribution will include approximately **425,000 rebates totaling \$258 million** — critical relief that is going to older homeowners, renters, and people with disabilities across Pennsylvania.

This follows the work **Governor Shapiro and his Administration** did last year to deliver 522,434 rebates totaling over \$319 million to the Pennsylvanians who submitted a rebate application. This was a major increase from prior years thanks to Governor Shapiro's efforts to secure bipartisan support for a major expansion of the PTRR program. The expansion significantly increased the rebate amount for eligible applicants and raised the program's income limits. Based on the latest data from the past two years, this has already opened the door for approximately **150,000 first-time filers** to receive a rebate for the very first time.

"The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program is a lifeline for Pennsylvanians, and thanks to the historic expansion we passed in my first year in office, more people than ever are getting the help they need," said **Governor Shapiro**. "This was the first time in nearly 20 years the program was expanded – and now rebates are going out to hundreds of thousands of seniors and people with disabilities all across the Commonwealth. We

worked together to cut costs and put money back in people's pockets, and that's exactly what we're delivering."

"For more than 50 years, the Department of Revenue has been the agency responsible for administering the Property Tax/Rent Rebate program. Our employees see firsthand how much of an impact the program makes for seniors and Pennsylvanians with disabilities — especially after Governor Shapiro's work to expand the program to ensure it reaches more people and delivers more support," said **Secretary Browne**. "If you think you might be eligible for a rebate, you can visit our website, at pa.gov/ptrr, to check the program guidelines and find helpful tips to apply. There are also a number of options where you can find in-person filing support, including at Department of Revenue districts offices."

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

Of the remaining PTRR applications yet to be approved, many required the Department of Revenue (DOR) to reach out to the applicant for more information to confirm their eligibility. If you are contacted by DOR, Pennsylvanians are encouraged to respond as soon as possible so their applications are processed and approved for payment in a timely manner.

After the initial distribution of rebates starts on July 1, rebates will be distributed as applications are received and processed. If you think you might be eligible for a rebate on property taxes or rent paid in 2024, remember that you still have time to apply. The application deadline was <u>recently extended to December 31, 2025</u>.

"I'm proud to stand before you today and share that the Harrisburg Area YMCA is working hard to expand our outreach and help even more people enroll in the Property Tax/Rent Rebate program — not only here in Harrisburg and Central Pennsylvania, but across the entire Commonwealth," said **Eric Rothermel, Vice President of Government Relations, Harrisburg Area YMCA**. "The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program is another vital resource our staff can connect residents to, helping families, seniors, and people with disabilities build a healthy spirit, mind, and body for all."

"At AARP, we survey our members regularly, both across the country and here in Pennsylvania — and what we hear is remarkably consistent," said **Bill Johnston-Walsh, AARP Pennsylvania State Director**. "In our most recent survey of Pennsylvanians age 45 and older, 86 percent said it's extremely or very important to them to be able to stay in their own homes as they age. At the same time, 59 percent told us that rising property taxes could threaten their ability to age in place in their homes or communities. It's data like this that made us immediately and enthusiastically support the Governor's expansion of the Property Tax/Rent Rebate program. This expansion is putting money back into people's pockets, helping them age in place and better afford essentials like food, utilities, and prescription drugs."

"It's a privilege to speak about a program that is making a real difference in the lives of our neighbors — seniors and people living with disabilities," said **Representative Nate Davidson**. "I want to extend my sincere gratitude to Governor Shapiro for his leadership in securing the largest expansion of this program in nearly 30 years. This program is truly a lifeline. It provides much-needed financial relief that helps elderly and disabled residents stay in their homes, age in place, cover essential costs, and maintain their independence. For many, these rebates mean the difference between struggling to make ends meet and having a bit more breathing room in their household budget. These aren't just numbers on a spreadsheet — they translate to groceries, prescription medications, and a little less worry for families right here in our community."

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. Eligible applicants must reapply for a rebate every year because rebates are based on annual income and property taxes or rent paid during the prior year.

The table below shows how much homeowners and renters who fit the eligibility criteria are eligible for, depending on their income in 2024:

INCOME	MAX STANDARD REBATE
\$0 - \$8,270	\$1,000
\$8,271 - \$15,510	\$770
\$15,511 - \$18,610	\$460
\$18,611 - \$46,520	\$380

Submitting your application online through myPATH — in English or Spanish — 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.

It's free to apply for a rebate and assistance is available at hundreds of locations across the state: Department of Revenue district offices, local Area Agencies on Aging, and state legislators' offices. You can use the DOR online lookup tool to find a location most convenient for you.

The easiest way to check the status of your rebate is to use the Where's My Rebate? tool on myPATH. To check on the status of your claim, you will need your Social Security number, claim year, and date of birth.

About the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program Expansion

Governor Josh Shapiro during his first year in office signed into law a <u>historic</u> <u>expansion of the Property Tax/Rent Rebate (PTRR) program</u>, which means more Pennsylvanians now qualify — and at the same time — the vast majority who qualified in prior years are seeing their rebates increase. This was the first time the program was expanded since 2006. The expansion:

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

Since its inception in 1971, the PTRR program has delivered more than \$8.6 billion in property tax and rent relief to some of Pennsylvania's most vulnerable residents. The PTRR program is supported by the Pennsylvania Lottery and receives funding from gaming.

For more information on how Governor Shapiro's 2025-26 proposed budget will cut costs for Pennsylvanians, click <u>here.</u>

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