



Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection

Low-income senior property tax exemption



Frequently Asked Questions:

What is acceptable documentation for proof of age?

Acceptable documents for proof of age are:

- Copy of your driver's license even if you have not renewed it
- Copy of your birth certificate even if you have a different last name now
- Copy of your passport
- Copy of a medical card that shows birth date

If you have none of these documents conveniently available to you, give us a call and we will make accommodations depending on your situation.

What does the water district consider to be total household income?

Total household income is the total of all income coming into the home for all persons over the age of 18 living in the home. It includes taxed and non-taxed income. The only exclusion from the total is a one-time sale of property (capital gains).

Taxable income would include income from renting out a room. The yearly income of a person who rents from you is not considered part of your household income.

Example 1: Mr. and Mrs. B. both get social security and money from a mature life insurance annuity. The total household income includes both of their social security payments and the income from the annuity.

Example 2: Mrs. A rents out a room in her house for income in addition to her social security. Her total household income is the rent minus expenses associated with the rental, plus her social security.

It doesn't say anything about sending in proof of income. Do I have to send anything in to verify I meet the income requirement?

No, we do not require any proof of income. Your signature on the form is enough legal proof for us. By signing the form, under penalty of perjury, you are legally declaring that you meet the income requirement.

Do I have to re-apply every year?

You do not have to fill out an application every year. Once you have sent in your application and have been accepted into the exemption program, we will keep your information on our exemption list. Every April, we will send you a verification letter and form. The letter will ask you to fill out a simple form. Then it asks you to check 3 boxes, yes or no, to determine if you still qualify. You will check the appropriate boxes, sign the form, and send it back in the envelope provided. You do not have to include any proof of income or age.

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Low-Income Senior Exemption for Safe, Clean Water Special Tax



Frequently Asked Questions:

Will I get a refund check every year?

No. This program is meant to be an exemption, not a rebate. This means that once you have applied and been accepted into the program, you will not be billed for the **SCVWD – Safe Clean Water** special tax on your next property tax bill.

I thought I applied for an exemption. Why am I still paying a special assessment on my property tax for SCVWD flood control?

The assessment on your property tax bill for **SCVWD – Flood** is not included in our exemption program. When the Benefit Assessment Act creating the flood control special assessment was passed by the voters, it did not have a provision that allowed for a low-income senior exemption. When Measure B (Safe, Clean Water) was written, the water district included an exemption for low-income seniors. The measure was approved by more than two-thirds of the voters in the county. That is why the exemption is available only for the

Safe, Clean Water special tax and not for the special assessment shown as “SCVWD – Flood” on your property tax bill.

How can I tell if I am getting my exemption?

You are receiving your exemption if you **do not see** a charge on your property tax for the following special assessment tax: (Look in the area where they have the charge for the Library)

728 SCVWD Safe, Clean Water \$\$\$\$\$

You will see the charge for 88__ SCVWD Flood, which is the charge we cannot give an exemption for.

Below is an example of the Special Assessment Taxes on your property tax bill. This example shows the charge for 728 SCVWD Safe, Clean Water. This charge will not be on your bill if you are getting your exemption.

Example of tax bill showing Special Assessment Taxes:

Special Assessment Taxes	
728 SCVWD Safe, Clean Water	55.84
800 SJ SEWER SANI/STORM	500.40
802 S.J. LIBRARY ASSMT.	29.84
847 SCCO VECTOR CONTRO	5.08
848 MOSQUITO ASMT #2	8.36
882 SCVWD FLOOD CONTR	24.50
990 SCCOSA ASMT DIST 1	12.00
Special Assessments	\$636.02

← 728 SCVWD Safe, Clean Water charge will be removed. (Charge varies each year.)

If you have any other questions or need assistance please contact us at:
SCVWD Tax Hotline: (408) 630-2810 or seniorexemption@valleywater.org