

Important information for STAR exemption recipients

Changes to STAR

If you currently receive your STAR benefit as a reduction on your school tax bill (the STAR exemption), you may receive a greater benefit if you switch to the STAR credit to receive a check instead.

Recent changes in the law beginning this year:

- The value of the STAR credit savings may increase by as much as 2% each year, but the value of the STAR exemption savings will not increase.
- The income limit for the Basic STAR exemption is now \$250,000.

If your income is **more than \$250,000**, you **must** switch to the STAR credit to continue receiving a STAR benefit.

If your income is **\$250,000 or less**, you have the **option** to switch.

To switch to the STAR credit, all you need to do is register below. Or, call our office for assistance.

<https://www.tax.ny.gov>

Deadline to make “switch” is June 14, 2019

Enhanced STAR, which provides increased savings, is available to qualifying senior citizens ages 65 and older in both the credit and exemption programs; see [STAR eligibility](#).

Most homeowners will not need to take additional action. The letter they receive (Form RP-425-RDS) confirms that, as long as they are eligible, New York State will issue their STAR credit check before their 2019-2020 school taxes are due.

However, some homeowners must provide additional information before we can issue a check for the STAR credit. These individuals will receive a letter (Form RP-425-RDM) explaining how to update their registration. After New York State confirms their eligibility, they will issue their STAR credit check.

HOW TO UPDATE STAR REGISTRATION

MAKE SWITCH

REGISTER FOR STAR/ENHANCED CHECKS

WWW.TAX.NY.GOV/STAR

Once on this page CLICK REGISTER. You will be prompted to enter a security code (as seen on the screen). After that there will be three (3) options:

To update Registration – This is for the people that MUST switch to the credit because their income is between 250,000 and 500,000. Most of the home owners in the category will automatically get enrolled. If the State requested more information they will go here. These people will receive letters from Tax & Finance. IF they don't get a letter, they don't have to worry about anything.

Make Switch – this is where homeowners can voluntarily switch from the Exemption to the Credit

Register for STAR – this is for NEW homeowners, registering for the first time.

The deadline to register for the credit is June 17th, if they want to receive their check in time for the school tax bills in September. If they register after the 17th they are not guaranteed a timely check.