



CITY OF MELROSE

In City Council

May 20, 2024

AN ORDER

ORDNC-2024-3

Amending Chapter 6 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Melrose, Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Abatement Program

BE IT ORDERED

Amending Chapter 6 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Melrose, Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Abatement Program

HISTORY:

05/06/24	City Council	ASSIGN TO COMMITTEE
05/13/24	Legal & Legislative	OUGHT TO PASS

RESULT:	PASSED AS AMENDED [8 TO 0]
MOVER:	Ryan Williams, At-Large
SECONDER:	Cal Finocchiaro, Ward 6
AYES:	Finocchiaro, Garipay, Hamilton, Romanul, Stewart, Vandiver, Williams, Migliorelli
ABSENT:	Maya Jamaledine, Manjula Karamcheti, John Obremski

In the City Council
Ordained Roll Call
[Unanimous]

Passed May 20, 2024

Kristin Foote, Clerk



Leila B. Migliorelli, President
City Council

5/23/24
Date



Jennifer Grigoraitis, Mayor

5/23/24
Date

§ 6-1. Senior citizen property tax work-off abatement program.¹ [Added 8-19-2003 by Ord. No. 01-029A ; amended 9-22-2008 by Ord. No. 09-016 ; 8-17-2015 by Ord. No. 2016-7]

- A. Individuals who are 60 years old or older shall be eligible to participate in this program. Individuals must be the homeowner or current spouse of homeowner, and must own and occupy the residence for which property taxes are paid and for which credit is being sought. Only one tax abatement per property per year shall be allowed.
- B. City departments are required to identify their specific needs and the Council on Aging (COA) will review each application to match an applicant's interest and skill set with a department's specific needs. Placement in the program cannot be guaranteed and is based on qualifications and availability of relevant work.
- C. The participants in the program shall perform volunteer work for the City and shall receive a rate that shall not exceed the commonwealth's minimum wage for said service. The maximum abatement which can be earned by any participant in the program is two thousand (\$2,000) dollars during any calendar year.
- D. Records of hours worked are kept and credited at the Massachusetts minimum wage rate. Upon completion of work by the participants, the Board of Assessors shall apply the credit to the owner's tax bill to abate their property taxes for an amount no greater than \$2,000.
- E. In each calendar year, individuals shall be allowed to participate in this program based on one's specific qualifications to perform the work and the available positions needed to perform said work Citywide. An approved representative shall be allowed to perform the volunteer work for the direct benefit of any participant who is physically unable to personally provide such services to the City of Melrose.
- F. In the event there are more qualified applicants than available positions, participants for the program may be selected from a lottery of equally qualified individuals.
- G. The Director of the City of Melrose Council on Aging shall be responsible for determining eligibility for the program.
- H. This program shall undergo an annual review by City Council beginning on or after January 31, 2026.

