



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Homestead Program Participants Will Be Receiving a Letter; A Response is Needed ONLY if There Are Changes

LANCASTER, Ohio -- Fairfield County residents who participate in the Homestead program for property tax reductions in the state of Ohio will be receiving a letter in the mail from Dr. Carri L. Brown, County Auditor.

The letter will include a continuing application for Homestead exemption. **Residents need to complete the application ONLY if they have any changes to report that affect their homestead exemption. If no changes have occurred, there is no need to return this form.**

These letters have been mailed, and there is sometimes confusion about the action to take. No action is needed if the resident has not experienced any changes relating to their eligibility for the program.

“We are highlighting this mailing because of the relatively large number of residents who will receive a letter, and we want people to know they can call the office if they have any questions. If it gives people comfort to return the form, even if there are no changes, that is fine. But we need to have people return the form if there are status changes, such as a change in income. The application itself is a state form that cannot be changed locally,” stated Brown.

Ohio’s Homestead Exemption program allows senior citizens and permanently and totally disabled Ohioans that meet annual state set income requirements to reduce their property tax burden by shielding some of the market value of their home from taxation.

The income requirements in Ohio are that the total household income does not exceed \$41,000 per year if applying in 2026. The income for the program includes the Ohio adjusted gross income of the owner and the owner's spouse.

Anytime, specific questions about the Homestead program can be addressed by calling the Auditor’s Office at (740) 652-7020.

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