

PRESS RELEASE

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Property Tax Postponement Application Program for Low Income Seniors and the Disabled Now Includes Mobile Homes

SANTA ANA, Calif. – Orange County Treasurer Shari Freidenrich announces the opening of the application period for the California Property Tax Postponement Program (PTP) that allows low income seniors and disabled property owners to defer their fiscal year 2019-20 secured property taxes on their principal residence if they meet established criteria.

The program, which offers housing security, was reinstated in 2016 after being suspended by the governor in 2009 and does not include past delinquent taxes. Information is available on the California State Controller's Office website at sco.ca.gov/ardtax_prop_tax_postponement.html, by calling 800-952-5661 or by emailing postponement@sco.ca.gov.

Homeowners can also go to the Treasurer's website at <u>ttc.ocgov.com</u> to access the state PTP information by clicking on the Property Tax Postponement icon in the middle of the page.

"The purpose of this program is to help low income seniors and people with disabilities stay in their homes," said Orange County Treasurer Shari L. Freidenrich. "With the recent change in law, manufactured (mobile) home owners are now able to apply as long as they do not have any delinquent prior year property taxes."

Interested applicants will need to submit a copy of their current year property tax bill along with other required documents. An internet copy of your property tax bill is acceptable and can be found online at ocgov.com/octaxbill or by scanning the QR code below and then entering your APN or property address. To qualify, a homeowner much meet all of the following criteria (contact the State as criteria may change):

- Own or occupy the real estate as a principal place of residence
- Have a household income of \$35,500 or less
- Have at least 40 percent equity in the property
- Not have a reverse mortgage on the property
- Be at least 62 years of age, or blind or disabled
- Can have delinquent prior year taxes (except for mobile homes)

A 7 percent interest rate per year will be charged for taxes postponed under the PTP. Applications will be accepted through February 10, 2020. Property taxes must be paid on time through the application process and if approved, homeowners will receive a refund minus the amount due under the program.

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