FACT SHEET: CT PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

CREATED SEPTEMBER 2025

The Connecticut Veterans Legal Center (CVLC) provides free legal representation, advice, and referrals to Veterans in every town in Connecticut on a wide array of issues. If you are low income Veteran in need of legal services, please find our contact and intake information listed on the back of this page.

Please note that the information contained on this fact sheet is provided for informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice.

HISTORY

In May 2024, Governor Ned Lamont signed into law <u>Public Act 24-46</u>, An Act Establishing a Property Tax Exemption for Veterans Who Have a Service-Connected Permanent and Total Disability Rating. During the 2025 legislative session, revisions were made to clarify the intent of the bill and create better guidelines, while also expanding eligibility for some Veterans.

Connecticut Veterans Legal Center Executive Director Alison Weir, on behalf of the organization, supported many aspects of this bill through public testimony and providing information to legislators about the intricacies of the VA Benefit system. We do not, necessarily, fully endorse the final bill and are not responsible or able to affect changes. If you have questions or concerns about the bill, you should contact your representatives in the state legislature. You can find their contact information <a href="https://exemption.org/legislature-necessarily-necessari

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

1. Do I qualify if I am classified Total Disability based on Individual Unemployability (TDIU)?

Maybe. The new statute allows municipalities to extend the exemption to Veterans that the VA determines are unable to work due to their service-connected disabilities to the extent that they are "totally disabled" and are classified TDIU. The option is not required, and municipalities may decline to extend the exemption.

2. My property is in my non-Veteran child or spouse's name, can I still qualify?

Maybe. If your property is your primary residence and you are responsible for paying taxes on it, even if it is held in trust for you by a non-Veteran, you qualify.

3. Do I need to be 100% service-connected?

Yes. You also need to be determined to be "permanently disabled" by the VA. If your 100% service connection is temporary, you do not qualify for the exemption.

4. I am a surviving spouse, do I qualify?

Yes. If your spouse died after October 1, 2024, when the law went into effect.

Maybe. If your spouse was 100% service-connected and died due to their service-connected injury before that date, the new statute allows municipalities to extend the exemption to spouses who have not remarried.



CONTACT INFORMATION

info@ctveteranslegal.org | (203) 794-4291 intakes@ctveteranslegal.org | (203) 479-0375 (text or call)

CTVeteransLegal.org

CVLC has four locations: West Haven, Orange, Newington, and New London. Visit **ctveteranslegal.org/contact** to see hours of operation and addresses.



5. Who decides if I qualify? (local vs. state control)

The state law provides that any Veteran who is 100% permanently and totally disabled is exempt from paying property tax on their dwelling (or car if they do not own their house or their house is not held in trust for them) or for any widow or widower of a veteran who was permanently and totally disabled as of October 1, 2024.

Municipalities can decide they would like to expand the exemption to veterans Determined to be Total Disability based on Individual Unemployability (TDIU) by the VA or to Gold Star spouses whose Veteran spouses died before enactment of the law. However, municipalities cannot deny eligibility to anyone who qualifies under the state statute.

6. How do I apply?

Fill out the form located at the link below and bring it, along with your proof of your military service and disability rating to your town or city hall. **The deadline is January 1, 2026.**Download the form here: https://portal.ct.gov/opm/igpp/services-and-forms/municipal-official-and-taxpayer-forms

7. What do I do if I am denied?

The bill has not been active long enough to understand how to appeal a decision. You may wish to seek advice from an attorney, although it is unclear if the law requires or allows a path forward after denial. If you decide to hire an attorney, you should be looking for a firm or individual that practices in the area of "taxes." As always, read your contract with your attorney carefully and be wary of any firm that promises a successful resolution.

As of 8/18/2025, CVLC is not accepting clients whose primary legal issue pertains to Public Act 24-46 property tax exemption. This may change in the future.

GET SUPPORT FROM CONNECTICUT VETERANS LEGAL CENTER

Connecticut Veterans Legal Center's mission is to empower, support, and improve the lives of Connecticut Veterans by providing free legal assistance to help them overcome legal barriers to housing, healthcare, income, and recovery.

CVLC works directly with Veterans who are referred to us by their mental health clinician, case manager, or physician. If you are a low income Veteran who needs legal assistance, please have your clinician visit our website at **ctveteranslegal.org/clinicians** to learn more and access our referral form. You can also email the screening team directly at **intakes@ctveteranslegal.org** or call **(203) 479-0375** to learn more.

Please note that due to the high capacity of emails, calls, and drop-ins, it can take up to 5 business days for us to review and respond. If you have an urgent deadline, we will do our best to respond quickly but you may also wish to use <u>CTLawHelp.org</u> for trustworthy, 24/7 self-help.



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