

A list of all the members of the Exemption & Deferral Program and their contact information is provided in the student materials.

Property Tax Exemptions: Nonprofit, Tribal & Others

Administered by DOR

- Qualifying nonprofits
- LET Government owned property leased to NP
- Tribal owned
 - Essential government services
 - Economic development
 - PILT
- LET Government owned property leased to NP
- Public hospitals leasing property

Administered by County Assessor

- · Government owned
- Tribal USA owned In Trust for the Tribe or its members
- Improvements to singlefamily dwellings
- Historic Property

Administered by City or County Governing Authority

- MFTE Multi-family tax exemption
- Industrial/manufacturing facilities
 Revenue

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In Washington State, all property is subject to taxation unless there is a specific exemption provided by law.

Most property tax exemptions are found in RCW chapter 84.36.

Exemptions can be applied to real property, personal property, and leasehold excise tax.



Most exemption applications processed by our department are for property owned by nonprofit organizations in the state of Washington. Not all nonprofit organizations qualify for a property tax exemption. Those that may be eligible are authorized by RCW chapter 84.36 and WAC chapter 458-16.

In 2022, the department processed almost 600 new applications from nonprofit organizations seeking exemption from property tax.

We have a team of seven auditors that are each assigned to different counties across the state.



There are over 49 different nonprofit property tax exemptions.

The requests we see most frequently include:

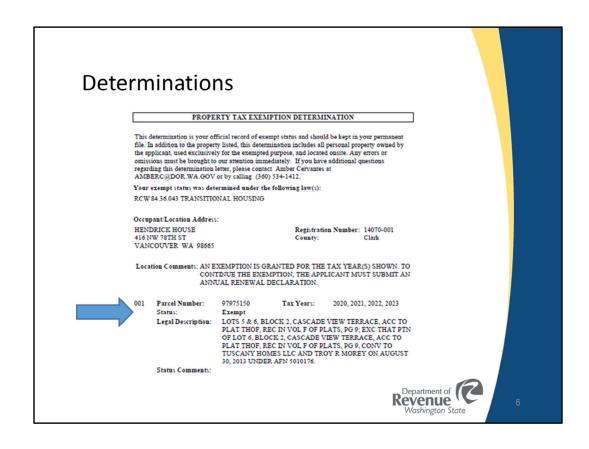
- RCW 84.36.020 Church, Parsonage, Convent, Caretaker's Residences & Cemeteries
- RCW 84.36.030 Social Services
- RCW 84.36.060 Museums and Performing Arts Facilities

Our team is working to create educational materials regarding the various exemptions. A brochure for each exemption type is in the works and a copy of the brochures created for church exemptions and public assembly halls are included in the student materials.



A copy of the Application for Nonprofit Property Tax exemption is included in the student materials and is also available on our website at dor.wa.gov.

Approximately 95% of the applications received are processed within our 60-day goal.



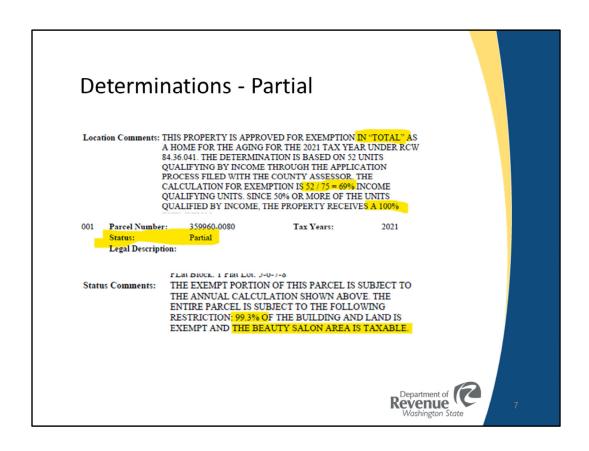
When the Department approves or denies an exemption, a determination is issued.

A copy of the determination is mailed to the applicant and a copy of the determination is emailed to the County Assessor.

The applicant has 30 days to appeal a taxable determination.

The determination will indicate whether the parcel is Exempt, Partial, or Taxable and will state the tax years the determination applies to.

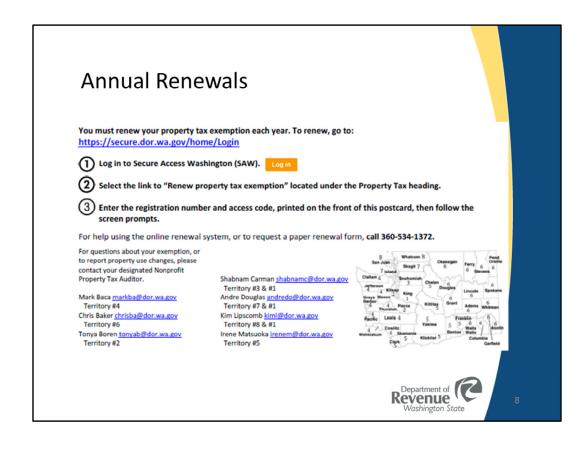
Once a determination is issued, it remains in effect until another determination for the same property is issued.



When the determination is for a partial exemption, the comments should explain which portions of the property qualify for exemption and which portions of the property should remain taxable.

Some types of exemptions (Homes for the Aging and Income Qualified Housing) require a periodic recalculation of their exemption percentage. They may qualify for a "total" exemption based on the calculation, but still only receive a "partial" exemption on the parcel. In that case, the "total" exemption is only applied to the portion of the property receiving the exemption.

The contact information for the issuing auditor is on each determination – feel free to reach out with questions.



Most organizations that are approved for an exemption are required to complete a renewal each year by March 31 to confirm the use and ownership of the property has not changed.

Some that do not have to renew annually include:

- Nonprofit cemeteries
- Low-income homeownership
- Most tribal (except economic development)
- Income qualified housing (every 3 years)

A reminder to renew is mailed annually by January 1 to all organizations required to renew that year.

A determination removing the exemption is issued for any organization that has not submitted a complete renewal by November 30.

10,775 renewals were processed in 2022.



RCW 84.36.805 allows for loan or rental of exempt property for up to 50 days in a year. Of those 50 days, up to 15 may be for commercial/business activities.

The loan and rental special notice is included in the student materials and contains additional information.

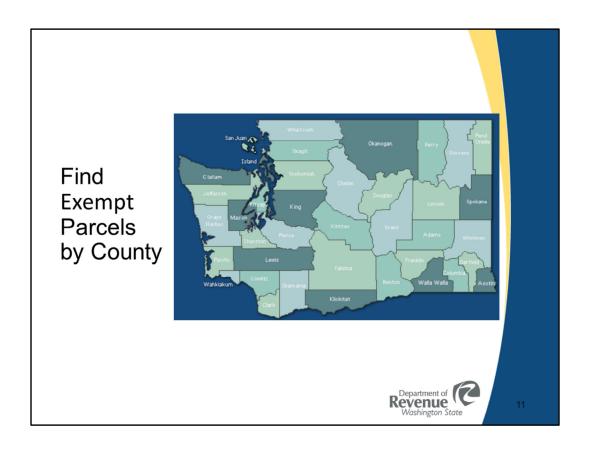
Changes in the use of exempt property need to be reported to the department within 60 days of the change.



RCW 84.36.010 provides a property tax exemption for property owned "in fee" by a federally recognized tribe and used by the tribe for Essential Government Services.

Tribes need to submit their applications to the Department by October 1 each year for exemption to begin in the following year.

The most recent special notice relating to tribal exemptions is included in the student materials.



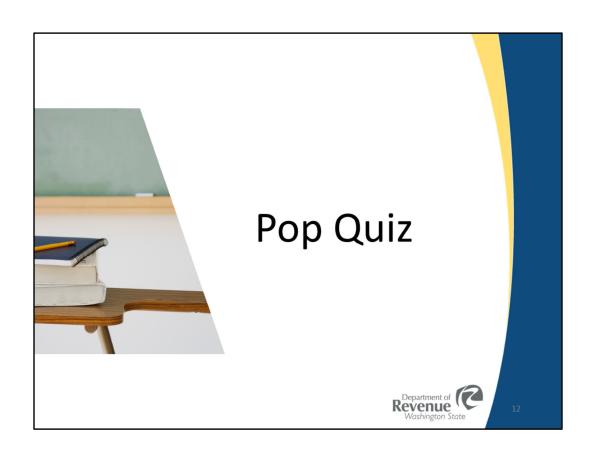
A parcel lookup tool is available for the public on the DOR website, which includes all parcels granted an exemption except property owned by tribes.

The PTRC website, for property tax administrators, includes all parcels granted an exemption by the department, including tribal property.

Both databases are updated on a monthly basis.

The parcel exemption information is the same as the information provided to each county annually that is sent no later than August 31.

• It's very important to compare the Assessor's database of exempt property with the information sent by the department in order to identify property that may be receiving an exemption in error, or that may not have had an exemption applied properly.









Where does a taxpayer apply for exemption from property taxes for an improvement made to a single-family dwelling?



