



APPLICATION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS /
AMBULANCE WORKERS EXEMPTION
(For Use In Columbia County Only)

APPLICATION MUST BE FILED WITH YOUR ASSESSOR OR OTHER DESIGNATED
LOCAL OFFICIAL ON OR BEFORE TAXABLE STATUS DATE

Do not file application with State Board of Real Property Services

1. Name and telephone number of owner (s)

2. Mailing address of owner (s)

\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_

Day No. (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Evening No. (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Location of property

\_\_\_\_\_
(Street address)

\_\_\_\_\_
(City/Town)

\_\_\_\_\_
(Village if any)

\_\_\_\_\_
(School District)

\_\_\_\_\_
Columbia County

Property identification (see tax bill or assessment roll)

Tax map number or section/block/lot: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name of incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated volunteer ambulance service:

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Relationship to incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated volunteer ambulance
service indicated in question 4:

- certified by company, department or service as enrolled member for at least five years; or
certified by company, department or service as having accrued at least 20 years of active service
(see instructions)

6. Does the applicant reside in the city, town, or village served by the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire
department or incorporated volunteer ambulance service indicated in question 4? yes no

7. Is the property the primary residence of the applicant? yes no

8. Does the applicant or do the applicant and his/her spouse own the property? yes no (attach proof of
ownership.)

9. Is any portion of the property used for other than residential purposes (farming, commercial, vacant land,
professional office, etc.)? yes no

If yes, explain such use and describe the portion that is so used. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Did the applicant previously receive a village tax exemption for service as a volunteer firefighter pursuant to
section 466 of the Real Property Tax Law? yes no

If yes, indicate name of village and last year in which exemption was granted. \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that all statements made on this application are true and correct.  
Signature of applicant (and spouse, if spouse also owns property)

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_(\_\_\_\_\_)  
date

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS /  
AMBULANCE WORKERS EXEMPTION IN COLUMBIA COUNTY**

**Authorization for exemption:** Section 466-d of the Real Property Tax Law authorizes the governing body of a county, city, town, village or school district in a county having a population of between 63,000 and 63,100 according to the latest federal decennial census (only Columbia County currently satisfies this standard) to partially exempt the residence of a volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker.

**Computation and duration of exemption:** The exemption is available only to members of incorporated volunteer fire companies, fire departments or incorporated volunteer ambulance services who have been certified as being enrolled members for at least five years. The municipality determines the procedure for certification. In addition, at further local option of the county, city, town, or village, the exemption may be granted for the life of an enrolled member who has accrued more than twenty years of active service.

The exemption may be granted only to applicants who reside in the city, town, village or school district served by the fire company, fire department or ambulance service. The exemption is available only to the primary residence of the applicant and only to property (or the portion thereof) exclusively used for residential purposes.

The exemption equals 10 percent of the assessed value of the property to a maximum of \$3,000 multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit in which the property is located. However, for village tax purposes, where the property previously received the \$500 exemption authorized by section 466 of the Real Property Tax Law, the minimum exemption is \$500.

**Place and time of filing application:** The application must be filed annually in the assessor’s office (or other official as designated by the municipality) on or before taxable status date. Taxable status date in towns within Columbia County is March 1. Taxable status date for most villages which assess is January 1, but the village clerk should be consulted for variations. Taxable status dates in cities is governed by city charter. Proof of certification of enrolled membership in the fire company or department or ambulance service shall be as required by the county, city, town, village or school district authorizing the exemption. Proof of ownership of the property needs to be filed with the owner’s initial application. The assessor may request proof of primary residence (e.g. voter’s registration, tax return).

**FOR ASSESSOR’S USE**

1. Date application filed: \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Taxable status date: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Action on application:      Approved    or      Disapproved

4. Amount of exemption:

County: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Village: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assessor’s signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date