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HOME OWNER GRANT APPLICATION CHANGES

On December 8, 2020, the B.C. government introduced legislation to amend the Home Owner Grant Act. The province shares, "these amendments are the first step to centralizing the homeowner grant program for the 2021 tax year. The proposed amendments do not change the eligibility criteria for the program."

WHAT THIS MEANS:

- The Province will be entirely responsible for the homeowner grant program for the 2021 tax year.
- All homeowners will apply directly to the Province online or over the phone.
- The provincial application will be available early in the new year, subject to the deposit of the regulations. The province reports that work on the regulations is currently underway.
- Starting January 1, 2021, local governments can no longer accept retroactive or new applications for the grant and instead homeowners must go to www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant

NEED ASSISTANCE?

If you are unable to apply online or have questions, please call:

Toll Free: 1-888-355-2700
Office: 250-387-0555

Telkwa

1415 Hankin Avenue
PO Box 220
Telkwa, BC V0J 2X0
P: (250) 846-5212
F: (250) 846-9572
info@telkwa.ca
www.telkwa.ca

Telkwa

Residents Guide to Applying for the Home Owner Grant Online



Spring 2021

GET READY TO APPLY

The best time to apply is after you receive your property tax notice in the mail and before your property tax due date.

1. Wait to receive your property tax notice in the mail.
2. Keep your property tax notice on hand. It has important numbers you'll need to apply.
3. Once applications open, you can apply quickly and easily online.
4. Contact the numbers below if you have any questions about the home owner grant.

Toll Free: 1 (888) 355-2700

Office: (250) 387-0555

By centralizing this program within the B.C. government reports they will:

- Ensure homeowners receive the grant amount they are eligible for, such as the additional grant for seniors or persons with a disability.
- Automate the approval process for grants resulting in quicker application processing – this will help prevent ineligible homeowners from being penalized for late property tax payments.

AVOID PENALTIES

While this information is subject to change as new information is announced by the Province, typically your tax payment and Home Owner Grant application must be received on or before July 2 each year. Late, or delayed by mail, payments: are subject to penalty if not received by the July 2 deadline.

STEP BY STEP GUIDE

Navigate to the Home Owner Grant web page, www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant, and follow the below steps to complete your Home Owner Grant Application.

STEP 1 – Getting Started:

Read the Important Reminders and proceed with the **Next** button.

STEP 2 – Property Details:

Enter your property details, you can find the Jurisdiction and Roll number on your tax notice or you can select **Search by my property address** to find this info with your civic address.

The screenshot shows the 'HOME OWNER GRANT APPLICATION' web page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with '1. Getting Started' and '2. Property Details'. Below this, the 'Property Details' section is active. It prompts the user to 'Enter the jurisdiction and roll number for the property you are applying for.' There are two input fields: 'Jurisdiction' and 'Roll Number', both marked as 'Required'. To the right, it says 'The Jurisdiction and Roll Number can be found on:' followed by a list: 'your tax notice, or' and 'the BC Assessment property search website'. Below this, it says 'You can also choose to search for your property by the civic address instead.' There is a checkbox and a link 'Search by my property address'. A red arrow points to this link from a yellow callout box that says 'Check the box to search for your property details with your address'. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Cancel', 'Previous', and 'Next'.

STEP 3 – Verify Address:

Confirm that the Jurisdiction, Roll Number, and Property Address listed are correct.

STEP 4 – Application Type:

Select the type of home owner grant application you are applying for (current or past year) and indicate who is applying as.

STEP 5 – Eligibility:

Answer the 2 questions about your citizenship and principal residence to confirm your eligibility.

STEP 6 – Identifiers:

Input your Birth Date, Social Insurance Number and Name to confirm your identity.

STEP 7 – Grant Type:

You will be able to select the Regular Grant and any additional grants you may qualify for.

STEP 8 – Certification:

Provide your contact information and check the box to certify that the information you've entered on the application is correct and complete to the best of your knowledge and submit. You are finished.