

**THIS RULE WAS REPEALED EFFECTIVE MAY 3, 2003.
SEE CHAPTER 458-16A WAC**

WAC 458-16-010 SENIOR CITIZEN AND DISABLED PERSONS
EXEMPTION--DEFINITIONS.

(1) The term "residence" means a single family dwelling unit whether such unit be separate or part of a multi-unit dwelling and includes the land on which the dwelling stands not to exceed one acre. The term also includes a share ownership in a cooperative housing association, corporation, or partnership if the person claiming exemption can establish that his or her share represents the specific unit or portion of such structure in which he or she resides. It includes a single family dwelling situated upon leased lands and upon lands the fee of which is vested in the United States, any instrumentality thereof including an Indian tribe, the state of Washington, or its political subdivisions. Also included is a mobile home which has substantially lost its identity as a mobile unit by being fixed in location upon land owned or rented by the owner of said mobile home and placed on a foundation, posts, or blocks with fixed pipe connections for sewer, water or other utilities even though it may be listed and assessed by the county assessor as personal property.

The residence must have been occupied by the person claiming the exemption as the principal or main residence of the claimant. It does not include a residence used merely as a vacation home. For purposes of this exemption, principal or main residence means a residence the claimant resides at or dwells in for more than six months each year. Items to be considered in verifying residency can be ownership of another residence, voter registration and vehicle licensing.

(2) The term "real property" for the purposes of WAC 458-16-010 through 458-16-079 includes subsection (1) of this section and the land on which a mobile home is located if both the land and mobile home are owned by a qualified claimant.

(3) The term "preceding calendar year" means the calendar year preceding the year in which the claim for exemption is filed.

(4) "Department" means the state department of revenue.

(5) "Combined disposable income" means the disposable income of the person claiming the exemption, plus the disposable income of his or her spouse, and the disposable income of each cotenant occupying the residence for the preceding calendar year. Disposable income is defined in WAC 458-16-013.

(6) "Cotenant" means a person who resides with the person claiming the exemption and who has an ownership interest in the residence.

(7) "Owned" includes "contract purchase" as well as "in fee," a "life estate," and any "lease for life."

"Revocable" trusts will be considered as life estates. "Irrevocable" trusts may qualify as a life estate if the trust terminates on the claimant's demise.

A residence owned by a marital community or owned by cotenants is deemed to be owned by each spouse or cotenant.

(8) The term "regular gainful employment" means consistent or habitual labor or service which results in an increase in wealth or earnings.

(9) The term "family" includes a single person, any number of related persons, or a group not exceeding a total of eight related and nonrelated nontransient persons living as a single nonprofit housekeeping unit. The term does not, however, include a boarding or rooming house.

(10) "Replacement residence" means a residence that qualifies for the exemption contained in WAC 458-16-010 through 458-16-079 except for the time requirement contained in WAC 458-16-020(1).

(11) "Physical disability" means the condition of being disabled, resulting in the inability to pursue an occupation because of physical or mental impairment. A doctor's signed statement constitutes proof of such disability and shall be required before the exemption may be granted. This statement shall indicate the expected period or term of the disability.

(12) "Remainderman" means one who is entitled to the remainder of the

estate after a particular estate has expired; that is, a person having legal right to the real estate at the death of the life tenant or some other named time.

(13) "Remainder" means an estate in land which does not become possessory until a designated time in the future.

(14) "Lease for life" means a lease that terminates upon the demise of the lessee.

(15) "Life estate" means an estate whose duration is limited to the life of the party holding it or of some other person.

(16) "Ownership by a marital community" means property owned in common by both spouses. Property held in separate ownership by one spouse is not owned by the marital community. The person claiming the exemption must own the property for which exemption is claimed. Example: A person qualifying for the exemption by virtue of age or disability cannot claim exemption on a residence owned by the person's spouse as a separate estate outside the marital community unless the person has a life estate therein.

(17) "Excess levies" are all voter approved in accordance with RCW 84.52.050, with the exception of port district, public utility district and emergency medical service district levies.

(18) "Claimant" means a person who is entitled to and has been approved for the exemption contained in WAC 458-16-010 through 458-16-079.

(19) "Annuity" means a payment of a fixed sum of money at regular intervals of time. This includes the proceeds of life insurance contracts (other than lump sum payments), unemployment compensation, disability payments, welfare receipts and others that do not constitute payments for the care of dependent children.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 84.36.389 and 84.36.865. 83-19-029 (Order PT 83-5), 458-16-010, filed 9/14/83. Statutory Authority: RCW 84.36.389. 81-05-018 (Order PT 81-6), 458-16-010, filed 2/11/81; Order PT 76-1, 458-16-010, filed 4/7/76; Order PT 74-6, 458-16-010, filed 9/11/74.]