

**CITY OF FROSTBURG  
VOLUNTEER FIRE REAL ESTATE TAX CREDIT  
WORK SESSION DISCUSSION TOPIC – MARCH 11, 2025**

Summary: The City of Frostburg would offer a real estate tax credit to active members of the fire department. The credit is up to \$1,000 per year for the primary residence of each eligible member.

Eligibility criteria:

1. The individual must be an active member of the Frostburg Fire Department or a mutual aid department (carry 50 or more points on a quarterly basis) for the entire previous calendar year.
2. The individual must have earned the necessary points required for the State of Maryland, Louis L. Goldstein Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services tax modification for the previous calendar year.
3. The primary residence of the active member is located within the City limits and is owned and occupied by the eligible member(s). Ownership is verified by the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation online real estate tax database as of June 1.
4. The individual must have successfully completed the initial probationary period as defined by the fire department.
5. The individual must be alive when tax bills are generated. The fire department is responsible to notify the City of Frostburg Director of Finance if a member who was certified as eligible passes away.

Credit amount:

1. The credit is up to \$500 per year for the primary residence of each eligible member.
2. The maximum credit per household is \$1,000. (For example, if a member and their spouse are both named on the deed of the property and are both individually deemed to be eligible for the credit, the credit is limited to \$1,000.)
3. The credit cannot exceed the City of Frostburg real estate tax.
4. The credit is non-refundable.
5. The credit is prorated on a daily basis if a property is sold during the fiscal year to which the real estate tax credit was applied and the tax bill is unpaid when tax information is requested for property transfer.
6. The credit is non-transferable.

Application process:

1. The board of directors of the Frostburg Fire Department or mutual aid department determines eligibility annually in accordance with the criteria outlined by the City.
2. A list of all eligible members must be submitted to the City of Frostburg Director of Finance by May 1 each year on fire department letterhead and is signed by at least two members of the fire department board of directors.
3. If an application or renewal is filed after May 1, the credit is disallowed that year.