



County of San Bernardino



**Ensen Mason CPA, CFA • Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector**

**NEWS RELEASE – For Immediate Release**

**October 23, 2019**

## **APPLICATION PERIOD OPENS FOR EXPANDED 2019-20 PROPERTY TAX POSTPONEMENT PROGRAM**

**San Bernardino, CA** — San Bernardino County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector (ATC) Ensen Mason reminds taxpayers that the 2019-20 Property Tax Postponement (PTP) Program application period is now open to qualifying taxpayers through February 10, 2020. This loan program is available through the State Controller’s Office (SCO) and allows eligible homeowners, including low-income seniors and disabled individuals, to postpone the payment of their current-year taxes on their primary residence at an interest rate of 7%. AB 133 will lower the program interest rate to 5% effective July 1, 2020.

Following the passage of SB 1130, the definition of a “residential dwelling” was expanded to include manufactured homes. Manufactured homes, whether affixed or un-affixed, are now eligible for postponement under the PTP Program effective fiscal year 2019-20. Postponement is available for current-year taxes only. Delinquent and/or defaulted property taxes are not eligible for postponement.

“The Property Tax Postponement Program can help low-income seniors, the blind, and disabled persons continue to live in their own homes,” noted ATC Mason. “The homelessness crisis makes it even more important that local government do everything within its power to keep these vulnerable individuals sheltered in homes they currently own. I am pleased to announce that, for the first time, owners of mobile homes now qualify for this program, and I urge them to apply. My staff is ready to help them with the application process.”

Applications will be accepted through February 10, 2020, and will be processed in the order they are received. To qualify, a homeowner must meet all of the following criteria for the 2019-20 tax year.

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- Be at least 62 years of age, or blind, or disabled;
- Own and occupy the home as your primary place of residence;
- Have a total household income of \$35,500 or less;
- Have at least 40% equity in the property; and
- Not have a reverse mortgage on the property.

Funding for the program is limited. Applications are immediately available at the Tax Collector’s Office located at 268 West Hospitality Lane, First Floor, in San Bernardino and online at [www.sco.ca.gov](http://www.sco.ca.gov) under the Public Services tab. For more information, please visit the SCO’s website at [www.sco.ca.gov](http://www.sco.ca.gov). You may also contact the SCO by phone at (800) 952-5661 or by email at [postponement@sco.ca.gov](mailto:postponement@sco.ca.gov).

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