

# Financial and Tax Assistance

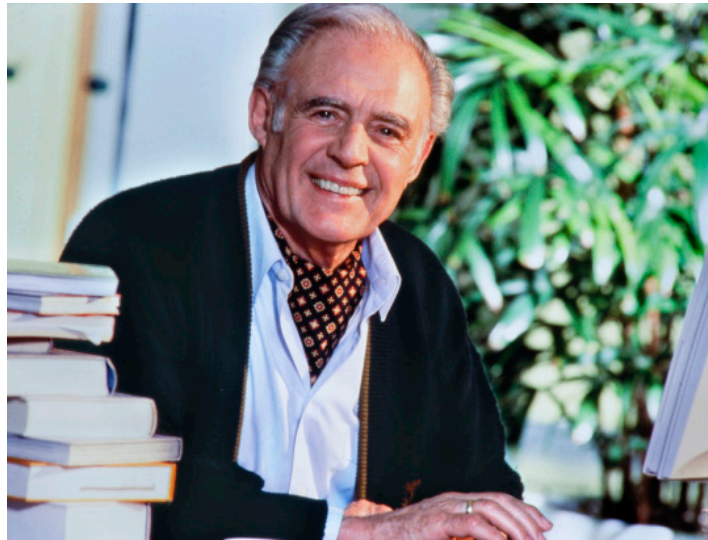
Financial assistance through Department of Health and Human Resources: Contact your local DHHR office for eligibility information about the following programs:

## Burial Assistance

The burial assistance program assists with payment up to \$1,000 toward the cost of funeral expenses for an indigent adult or child. The program benefits are determined by the burial rate and, when applicable, the amount which exceeds the maximum allowable.

## Emergency Assistance

The Emergency Assistance Program is used to assist individuals and families in meeting financial crises when they are without available resources. The program is designed to provide short-term emergency financial assistance with which eligible individuals and families may obtain items or services needed to eliminate an emergency or crisis. Items of need include rent, utilities, food, household supplies, clothing, transportation



and medical service. Assistance is limited to one 30- consecutive-day period during any 12 consecutive months.

## Financial Assistance

Other financial assistance programs that you may be eligible for: please contact your local DHHR or ADRC office for screening and application assistance or apply online at [www.wvpath.org](http://www.wvpath.org):

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-SNAP (Help with buying food-formerly Food Stamps)

- Medicaid, CHIP, QHP (Low- or no-cost health care)

- Long Term Care (Nursing or In-Home Care)

- Medicare Premium Assistance Program (Help with paying your monthly

Medicare Premium)

## Tax Assistance

- Free tax preparation assistance: The VITA program offers free tax preparation to low-moderate income taxpayers. IRS-certified volunteers help eligible taxpayers in local communities e-file their returns. During filing season, locate the VITA site nearest you at <http://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/> or call 1-800-906-9887.

## Homestead Exemption and the Senior Citizen Tax Credit

The Homestead Exemption provides for a \$20,000 exemption against the total assessed value of a single family dwelling, including mobile or manufactured

homes, owned and occupied as a residence by any person who is at least sixty-five years old or totally and permanently disabled and who has legally resided in and paid taxes on a homestead in this State for two consecutive taxable years before filing for this exemption.

The Senior Citizen's Tax Credit is available to those homeowners who participate in the Homestead Exemption program, have paid their property tax, and have income which is less than 150% of federal poverty guidelines (based on the number of people in the household). The senior may be eligible to receive a refund of property tax paid. If you receive a WVSTC-1 in the mail from the West Virginia State Tax Department, you are eligible for the Homestead Exemption Program (age 65+ or totally disabled) and may be entitled to a refundable income tax credit. Seniors must file a West Virginia income tax return to claim the credit. To apply for the Homestead Exemption Program, contact your county assessor's office.