



SENIORS ADD VALUABLE EXPERIENCE



Danbury Seniors
giving service to our community
while earning real estate tax credits

**2025-26 HANDBOOK
APPLICATION & INFORMATION**



United Way Coastal and Western Connecticut
301 Main Street, Suites 2-5 (2nd Floor), Danbury, CT 06810
Phone: 203-297-6715
lois.kugler@unitedwaycwc.org



CITY OF DANBURY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
155 DEER HILL AVENUE
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

ROBERTO L. ALVES
MAYOR

(203) 797-4511
FAX: (203) 796-1666
mayor@danbury-ct.gov

June 3, 2025

Dear Danbury Residents,

I am excited to offer the S.A.V.E. (Seniors Add Valuable Experience) program to seniors in our community this year. The City of Danbury created S.A.V.E. to provide vital tax relief for our senior residents. We hope you take advantage of this program and continue to age well in your home here in Danbury.

The S.A.V.E. program not only assists seniors with property taxes but also provides you with exciting opportunities to give back to your community. S.A.V.E. can connect you with volunteer opportunities across many different organizations in the city. In exchange for your service, you will receive a credit on next year's property tax bill.

Last year, 30 seniors participated in the program, and we hope to see that number continue to grow. In addition to S.A.V.E., the City of Danbury also just began a new comprehensive senior tax program that we encourage you to discuss with the Tax Assessor's Office early next year.

In the 2024-2025 fiscal year, 15 city departments and nonprofits participated in S.A.V.E., all offering unique volunteer opportunities. To find out more about how you can take advantage of this program, please review the attached booklet.

To our community partners, I applaud you for all of your efforts in providing S.A.V.E. volunteers with exciting opportunities this year. The City of Danbury is proud to continue its collaboration with the United Way of Western Connecticut to administer S.A.V.E. This program is one way we can help make Danbury the best place to live, work, and raise a family in Connecticut.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Roberto L. Alves", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Roberto L. Alves
Mayor

General Program Information

The **SAVE Program** connects Danbury senior homeowners with volunteer service in Danbury City Departments and Nonprofit Agencies. The Program began in July 2008 and is administered by United Way Coastal and Western Connecticut for the City of Danbury.

Senior program participants will receive a \$700 property tax credit for the tax year 2025-2026 after completion of 100 hours of service by May 31, 2026.

(All 100 hours must be completed to receive the \$700 property tax credit)

SAVE is open to qualifying Danbury residential homeowners (NEW applicants: must be a resident for a minimum of 1 year) who are at least age 65 as of December 31, 2024 with the following income limits:

For a single person, applicants may have an annual income from all sources of no more than \$65,200.

For a married person, applicants may have an annual income from all sources of no more than \$75,100.

By law, you are required to pay 25% of your real estate taxes and must be up to date with your tax payments to participate in the **SAVE Program**.

ONLY ONE PERSON per household is eligible.
All information regarding income will be kept strictly confidential.

If you are currently receiving senior tax credits through other programs, you must check with the Danbury Tax Assessor's Office for your SAVE eligibility.

Placements are based on the skills and interests of the applicant, their ability to perform all duties and responsibilities of the placement, as well as on the needs of City Departments and Danbury Nonprofits.

Applicants have the right to refuse placements, as does each City Department or Nonprofit. However, each applicant will be given a maximum of three placement interviews. If none of these are accepted, there can be no guarantee of other placement.

Service tasks could include clerical, such as typing, filing, answering phones and similar administrative support, as well as light maintenance work, either indoors or outdoors. In addition, seniors with specialized skills including but not limited to accounting, engineering, electrical, mechanical, and technical expertise are encouraged to participate.

How do I know if I qualify to apply for the **SAVE Program**?

1. ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

I was born in 1959 or prior (Must be at least 65 by December 31, 2024).

2. ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

I am a Danbury residential homeowner (NEW applicants only: for a minimum of 1 year. You must be occupying the property to be eligible).

3. ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

I am single AND can document that my annual income from all sources is under \$55,200 OR

- ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

I am married AND can document that our annual income from all sources is under \$65,100.

4. ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

I have transportation to get to a volunteer site.

Cutoff date to apply for this Program is February 15, 2026

If you have answered YES to all these questions

YOU QUALIFY TO APPLY!

By law, you are required to pay 25% of your real estate tax bill and must be current with your tax payments to participate in the SAVE Program.

If you are currently receiving senior tax credits through other programs, you must check with the Danbury Tax Assessor's Office for your SAVE eligibility.

STEPS for SAVE PROGRAM SUCCESS

- ❑ Complete and sign the SAVE application on page 5 of this packet (**You must reapply each year because your income can change**).
- ❑ Schedule an appointment with Marie at the **Assessor's Office** at City Hall (**203-797-4556**) to submit your application and be approved for the program.

If you file a Federal Tax Return, please submit a copy of your entire 2024 Federal Tax Return, along with a copy of your 1099 from Social Security. If you do NOT file a Federal Tax Return, all documentation showing income is required.

GROSS INCOME IS USED.

You may submit your income proof via one of the following:

- In-person applications are by appointment **ONLY** with Marie at the Assessor's Office at City Hall (203-797-4556)
 - Email: m.kenney@danbury-ct.gov
- ❑ Once qualified with the Tax Assessor's Office, call Lois Kugler from United Way Coastal and Western CT at **203-297-6715** to schedule your appointment. Please bring your completed forms to the appointment and make sure that the **Emergency Contact Information** (page 6) is filled out.
 - ❑ The United Way will give you a volunteer assignment with a Danbury City Department and/or a Danbury Nonprofit Agency.
 - ❑ Call the contact person at the Danbury City Department or Nonprofit and schedule an appointment to visit and begin your volunteer hours.
 - ❑ Keep a copy for your own records of your monthly time sheet that your agency has submitted to United Way. United Way will submit your total hours to the Tax Assessor's Office at the beginning of June 2026.
 - ❑ A tax credit of \$700 per household will be applied to your June 2026 real estate tax bill **upon completion of 100 hours of volunteer service (all 100 hours must be completed)**.



NAME: Last _____ First _____ Social Security # _____

SPOUSE: Last _____ First _____ Social Security # _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____
Number and Street City State Zip

Phone # _____ Email _____ Marital Status: Married Single/Widow

QUALIFYING INCOME (INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES FOR LAST CALENDAR YEAR):

GROSS INCOME: Example: Wages, Bonuses, Commission Fees, Gratuities, Payment for Jury Duty (excluding travel allowance), Lottery winnings; Taxable portion of Annuities and Pensions (including Veteran's), Taxable portion of IRA's, Interest, Dividends, Net rent or proceeds from sales of property, etc. If you are required to file a Federal Income Tax Return, enter the amount of Adjusted Gross Income plus any other income and attach a copy of the return to this application. \$ _____

NON-TAXABLE INTEREST: Example: Interest from Tax Exempt Government Bonds \$ _____

SOCIAL SECURITY OR RAILROAD RETIREMENT INCOME – Gross Amount \$ _____

ANY INCOME NOT REFLECTED IN THE ABOVE -Examples: Federal Supplemental Security Income, State of Connecticut public assistance payment, General Assistance, Veteran's Pensions, Veteran's Disability Payments and any other income not listed above. \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

APPLICANT'S AFFIDAVIT – The Applicant herein claims a property tax exemption under provisions of the General Statutes, deposes that the above statements are true and complete and that he/she is not receiving a State exemption in accordance with Section 12-81 g in any other town or city. The signature below indicates that this affidavit has been read and understood. Participation in the SAVE Program will remain in effect for this year until such time that either party provide written notice to the other.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR AUTHORIZED AGENT

X _____ Date Signed _____

FOR ASSESSORS USE ONLY

Assessors Lot No. _____ Gross Assessment _____
Dates Worked _____ Date of Birth _____
Total # of hours worked _____ Amount Granted _____

ASSESSORS'S AFFIDAVIT

____ I am satisfied that the above named applicant meets all the necessary statutory requirements.

____ This claim is disallowed for the following reason: _____

SIGNATURE OF ASSESSOR OR ASSESSOR'S STAFF _____ **DATE** _____



Emergency Contact Information

Date: _____

Volunteer Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email : _____

Name of Contact: _____

Relationship: _____

Contact's Home Address: _____

Contact's Home Phone: _____

Contact's Cell Phone: _____

Contact's Work Phone: _____