

WAC 458-16-240 Veterans organizations. (1) **Introduction.** This rule explains the property tax exemption available under the provisions of RCW 84.36.030(4) for real and personal property owned by organizations and societies of veterans of any war of the United States.

(2) **Exemption.** Property owned by organizations or societies of war veterans, which are recognized by the department of defense and nationally chartered, is exempt from taxation.

(a) The general purposes and objectives of these organizations or societies must be to:

(i) Preserve memories and associations incident to war service; and

(ii) Devote their members' efforts to mutual helpfulness and to patriotic and community service to state and nation.

(b) In order to qualify for this exemption, the property must be used in a manner reasonably necessary to carry out the purposes and objectives of the organization or society of war veterans. For example, a building owned by a chapter of the veterans of foreign wars that is used to hold meetings to plan a Veterans Day celebration may qualify for exemption.

(3) **Property with option to repurchase.** Property leased, loaned, or sold with the option to repurchase or made available to organizations described in RCW 84.36.030 does not qualify for this exemption unless:

(a) The property is owned by an organization exempt under RCW 84.36.020 or 84.36.030 and the organization loans, leases, or rents the property to another organization for the exempt purposes described in RCW 84.36.030; or

(b) The property is owned by an entity formed exclusively for the purpose of leasing the property to an organization that will use the property for the exempt purposes described in RCW 84.36.030 if:

(i) The lessee uses the property for the exempt purposes provided in RCW 84.36.030;

(ii) The immediate previous owner of the property had received an exemption under RCW 84.36.020 or 84.36.030 for the property; and

(iii) The benefit of the exemption inures to the benefit of the lessee organization.

(4) **Additional requirements.** Any organization, association, or corporation that applies for a property tax exemption under this rule must also comply with the provisions of WAC 458-16-165. WAC 458-16-165 provides additional conditions and requirements that must be complied with to obtain a property tax exemption pursuant to RCW 84.36.030.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 84.08.010, 84.08.070, 84.08.080, 84.36.389, and 84.36.865. WSR 15-07-021, § 458-16-240, filed 3/10/15, effective 4/10/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 84.08.010, 84.08.070 and chapter 84.36 RCW. WSR 94-07-008, § 458-16-240, filed 3/3/94, effective 4/3/94. Statutory Authority: RCW 84.36.865. WSR 86-12-034 (Order PT 86-2), § 458-16-240, filed 5/30/86; WSR 85-05-025 (Order PT 85-1), § 458-16-240, filed 2/15/85; Order PT 77-2, § 458-16-240, filed 5/23/77; Order PT 76-2, § 458-16-240, filed 4/7/76. Formerly WAC 458-12-215.]