

## **Property Tax Mailer- FAQ**

**Q. Why did the Black Hawk County Auditor's Office mail me a "School, City and County Budget Year Statement?"**

A. A law adopted in 2023 requires county auditors by March 15 to send a statement to every taxpayer in the county with specific information about budgets and property tax rates being proposed by local school, county and city governments.

**Q. Do I need to do anything with this statement?**

A. No. It is strictly informational. It is not a bill. You are not required to do anything due to receiving the letter. You may want to attend one or more of the budget hearings referenced on the front of the letter if you want to make comments.

**Q. Why did I get more than one letter?**

A. Persons owning more than one property should get additional statements if those parcels are in different tax districts. For example, if you own a building in Waterloo and a building in Cedar Falls, you will get a statement for each. If you own two buildings in the same tax district in Waterloo you should only get one statement.

**Q. I am a Black Hawk County taxpayer and did not get a copy of this statement. Why?**

A. The auditor's office can research whether your mailing address is correct in the county tax system. If you want a notice but did not receive one, contact the auditor's office at (319) 833-3058, and we can send you one.

**Q. The statement indicates a \$100,000 home and \$300,000 business would see a property tax increase. Will my taxes really go up?**

A. Not necessarily. The calculation on the statement assumes the home and business in question saw a 10 percent increase in assessed value for the next tax bill. Property owners in Black Hawk County saw no change in assessed value for the 2024 assessment year, taxes payable September 2025/March 2026. Local governments can also change tax rates before the budgets are adopted.

**Q. Do tax-exempt properties receive a statement?**

A. No.

**Q. My statement does not include information about a city budget hearing. Why not?**

A. Properties outside of city limits do not pay city taxes and would not have city budget information included.

**Q. If I want help figuring out something on the statement where can I turn?**

A. The Iowa Department of Management has additional information about the mailing on its website at <https://dom.iowa.gov/citizen-property-tax-guide> or you could contact the Black Hawk County Auditor's Office at (319) 833-3058.