

Time to File your Exemptions

New Homeowners. Don't forget to file your Texas Homestead Exemptions for 2016.

Upon the purchase of a new home, you are eligible to file for a Texas Homestead Exemption which may reduce the amount of property taxes you will be required to pay. Tax exemptions are determined by the status of the occupant on January 1st of each tax year. You will only have to file once you reside in your new home. All Homestead Exemptions must be filed by April 30, 2016.

Contact the Appraisal District of the county in which you reside and request that they send you the necessary forms for "Declaring Your Homestead" or download the form from the appraisal district website. Filing for a Homestead Exemption is FREE through your appraisal district. You do not have to

pay a third party to file on your behalf. Your appraisal district should automatically send an application form to all new property owners around the first of February. If you do not receive the application or if you need additional information, contact your county appraisal district.

Effective September 1, 2011, in order to qualify for a residential homestead exemption you must provide a copy of your TX driver license or TX State ID card to the Appraisal District when submitting your application. The address on your driver license/state ID card must match the physical address of the residence for which you are applying for the homestead exemption on.

Appraisal Districts:

Harris County	713-957-7800	www.hcad.org	Galveston County	866-277-4725	www.galvestoncad.org
Fort Bend County	281-344-8623	www.fbcad.org	Montgomery County	936-756-3354	www.mcad-tx.org
Brazoria County	979-849-7792	www.brazoriacad.org	Liberty County	936-336-5722	www.libertycad.com
Chambers County	409-267-3795	www.chamberscad.org	Waller County	979-921-0060	www.waller-cad.org

Other Property Tax Exemptions you might be eligible for: *(contact your appraisal district to learn more about them)*

- **Age 65 or Older Homestead Exemption** You may qualify for this exemption on the date you become age 65.
- **Disabled Person Homestead Exemption** You may not claim both the Age 65 or Older and Disability exemption in the same tax year. There may be additional benefits for the Age 55 or Older Surviving Spouse of a person who was receiving the Disability exemption before their death.
- **Residence Homestead Exemption for Disabled Veteran with 100% Disability** You qualify for this exemption if you are a disabled veteran who receives from the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs or its successor 100% disability compensation due to a service-connected disability. A surviving spouse does qualify for the Exemption, but a surviving child does not.
- **Disabled Veteran or Survivors of a Disabled Veteran** You qualify for this exemption if you are a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces and your service branch or the Veterans Administration has officially classified you as disabled. A surviving spouse or child of an armed forces member killed on active duty may qualify for this exemption.
- **Surviving Spouse of Member of Armed Forces Killed in Action** A surviving spouse of a member of the U.S. armed services killed in action is allowed a total property tax exemption on his or her residence homestead if the surviving spouse has not remarried since the death of the armed services member.
- **Agricultural Appraisal** Land designated for agricultural use is appraised at its value based on the land's capacity to produce agricultural products.
- **Tax Deferral for Age 65 or Older or Disabled Homeowner** If you are a homeowner who qualifies for the Age 65 or Older or the Disability exemption, you may also defer or postpone paying any property taxes on your home for as long as you own and live in it. It is important to note that this deferral only postpones your taxes and does not cancel them. It also accrues 8% interest annually until the deferral is removed.

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