

# How to apply for a — HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION —

## WHAT IS A HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION?

Homestead exemptions are granted by the county appraisal district where the property is located. The exemption reduces a homeowner's property tax bill by removing part of the home's value from taxation. All Texas homeowners may receive a General Residence Homestead Exemption on the value of their property for school taxes upon application. Other taxing entities may also offer exemptions of some percentage of the home's value. Other exemptions are available to homeowners who are over 65 or disabled, and require the same application process.

## WHO QUALIFIES?

These requirements must be met to receive the exemption:

- You must reside at the home as your principal residence and not claim any other property as homestead.
- Only individual homeowners (not corporations or other entities) may receive a homestead exemption.
- A homestead can be a house, condominium or a manufactured home. It can include up to 20 acres, if the land is also owned by the homeowner and used as a yard, or for another purpose related to the residential use of the home.

## TIMING

We suggest that new homeowners apply after closing as soon as you have obtained your updated driver's license. Most counties will require that be updated. As of January 2022, homeowners can apply at any time throughout the year. The exemption will only apply to that tax year if filed prior to the annual deadline: April 30th. Once your county's chief appraiser approves your application for a homestead exemption, you do not need to reapply for the exemption unless the chief appraiser sends a new application and requests that you reapply

## HOW TO APPLY FOR A HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Your Homestead Exemption will be denied unless all of the required documents show the same homestead address. First, fill out the application specific to your County Appraisal District, then mail all of the documents to the Appraisal District for your County.

**1.** File online or Download Residential Homestead Exemption Application for your County of residence:

**TRAVIS COUNTY** | [www.traviscad.org](http://www.traviscad.org)

Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 149012, Austin, TX 78714

**WILLIAMSON COUNTY** | [www.wcad.org](http://www.wcad.org)

Mailing Address: 625 FM 1460, Georgetown, TX 78626

**HAYS COUNTY** | [www.hayscad.com](http://www.hayscad.com)

Mailing Address: 21001 IH 35 North, Kyle, TX 78640

**BASTROP COUNTY** | <https://bastropcad.org/exemptions>

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 578, Bastrop, Texas 78602

**2.** Include a Copy of your Driver's License or Identification Card. Your driver's license needs to be from the Texas Department of Public Safety (TX DPS) and the address must match the homestead address.

  
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