

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

ABOUT PROPERTY TAXES AND THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION IN TEXAS

How Property Taxes Are Calculated



The Appraisal

A property's appraised value is determined annually by the county appraisal district (CAD).



The Math

$$\frac{\text{Appraised Value} \times \text{Tax Rate}}{\div 100} = \$ \text{Property Tax Owed}$$

The General Homestead Exemption



What It Is

All homeowners are given a \$25,000 exemption from their home's value for taxation purposes.



How It Works

For example, if your home is appraised at \$200,000 then you will pay taxes as if it were worth only \$175,000.

Qualifications for Claiming a General Homestead Exemption

In order to claim a general residence homestead exemption, the property owner must:



have owned the property as of January 1st of the tax year.



be an individual person (i.e., not a corporation or business entity).



use the property as their primary place of residence.



not be claiming a homestead exemption on another property.

Applying for a Homestead Exemption



Go to your CAD's website and submit your homestead exemption application online. Travis, Hays and Williamson Counties all accept online applications.

- **Travis County:** traviscad.org
- **Hays County:** forms.hayscad.com
- **Williamson County:** wcad.org



You are required to submit a copy of your Texas driver's license or ID card with your application, showing that your home address matches the property address.



Applications must be submitted on or before April 30th of the year for which the exemption is requested.



Once you receive the exemption, you do not need to submit the application again. There is no need to reapply unless the chief appraiser requests it.

*You may be eligible for additional exemptions, based on criteria such as age, disability or veteran status. For more information, please go to the Texas Comptroller's website: comptroller.texas.gov.

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