

A variety of homestead exemptions could lower your property taxes!

A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home by lowering its taxable value. If your home is valued at \$50,000 and you receive a \$25,000 homestead exemption, your home will be taxed as if it were worth \$25,000.

Who qualifies for an exemption?

Anyone who owns a home on January 1 and uses it as a primary residence on that date is entitled to a \$25,000 homestead exemption to lower SCHOOL taxes. It does not matter if your home is a house, condominium or mobile home. Counties, cities and special taxing districts may also offer homestead exemptions.

Are other exemptions available?

If you are disabled—or if you are 65 years old or older—you are entitled to an additional \$10,000 school tax exemption on your home. And if you qualify for the 65 or older or disabled exemption, you are also entitled to a permanent, locked-in “ceiling” on the school taxes on your home. The county, city or junior college may adopt a tax ceiling for 65 and older or disabled home owners. The age 65 or older homeowners school tax ceiling transfers to the surviving spouse, if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of death and lives in and owns the home. The age 65 or older homeowners (or their surviving spouses 55 years of age or older) also may transfer the percentage of school tax paid, based on their former home’s school tax ceiling, to a new home.

If you are a disabled veteran, surviving spouse or surviving child of a disabled veteran you are entitled to an exemption from a portion of the appraised value of your residence homestead. This includes homesteads donated to disabled veterans by charitable organizations at no cost to disabled veterans.

****Please Note:** If you are a disabled veteran who receives from the Veterans Affairs (VA) – (1) 100 percent disability compensation due to service connected disability and (2) a rating of 100 percent disabled or a determination of individual unemployability, you are entitled to an exemption from taxation of the total appraised value of your residence homestead.

If you are the surviving spouse of a U.S. armed services member killed in action, you are entitled to an exemption from taxation of the total appraised value of your residence homestead.

If you are 65 years of age or older or are disabled, and qualify for the residence homestead exemption, you should contact the appraisal district regarding any entitlement you may have to a postponement in the payment of your taxes.

Do I have to apply every year?

If you had a homestead exemption on your home in 2017 you will not need to reapply for 2018 unless required by the chief appraiser. However, if you have not received an exemption on your present home – or if you have moved to a new home – you will need to file for an exemption for 2018. If you are 65 this year, you may file for the age 65 or older homestead up to one year after the date you became 65. And if you are disabled, you need to file for the disabled person’s exemption.

When and where do I file?

File applications before May 1 at your appraisal district office. If you need more time, contact your local appraisal district at:

COKE CAD

Courthouse 2nd floor W

Robert Lee, Texas 76945

325-453-4528

cokecad@co.coke.tx.us

Or contact: Texas Comptroller’s Office, Property Tax Division; P.O. Box 13528, Austin Tx 78711-3528

Or call: (800) 252-9121 and press “2” to access the menu and then press “1” to contact the Information Service Team

Or at website: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax

A public service announcement courtesy of your county appraisal district.