



Harris County  
Appraisal District

FORM 11.13 (01/12)

# Application for Residential Homestead Exemption

Account Number:

Tax Year:

Instructions for completing this form are on the back of the form. Return to Harris County Appraisal District, P. O. Box 922012, Houston, Texas 77292-2012. The district is located at 13013 Northwest Fwy, Houston, TX 77040. For questions, call (713) 957-7800.



**Step 1:  
Owner's  
Name and  
Address  
(attach  
sheets if  
needed)**

Owner's Name: (person completing application):

Current Mailing Address: (number and street):

City, State, ZIP code:

Birth Date:

Driver's license/State ID Number or SSN: **Required: Attach copies of your Texas driver's license/state-issued ID card and your vehicle registration receipt. The physical address of your homestead must match the address on your Texas driver's license/state-issued ID card and your vehicle registration receipt. If you do not own a vehicle, see Instructions on the back Step 1-E.**

Date you first occupied the home:

Percent Ownership in Property:

Other Owner's Name and Percent Ownership:

Phone (area code and number):

**Step 2:  
Describe  
your  
Property**

Physical address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of acres (not to exceed 20) used for residential purposes (yard, garden, garage, etc.) if the land and the structure have identical ownership \_\_\_\_\_ acres

**MANUFACTURED HOMES** - In addition to this page, complete page 3

**Step 3:  
Check  
Exemptions  
for which  
you may  
qualify**

- GENERAL RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION:** You qualify for this exemption if (1) you owned this property on January 1; (2) you occupied it as your principal residence on January 1; and (3) you or your spouse have not claimed a residence homestead exemption on any other property.
- OVER-65 EXEMPTION:** You qualify for this exemption if you are 65 years of age or older. This exemption also includes a school tax limitation, or ceiling, and may include a city or county tax ceiling if either offers one. You can't claim a disability exemption if you claim this exemption. You must apply within one year of the date you acquired the home, if you were 65 or older when you acquired and occupied the home as your principal residence, or within one year of the date of your 65th birthday, if you already owned the home and turned 65 after January 1. **Attach copy of driver's license, or your state ID card. Please call the appraisal district if you will transfer a tax ceiling from your last home.**
- DISABILITY EXEMPTION:** You qualify for this exemption if you are under a disability for the purposes of payment of disability benefits under the Federal Old Age, Survivor's and Disability Insurance Act OR you meet the definition of disabled in that Act. You can't claim an over-65 exemption if you claim this exemption. This exemption includes a school tax limitation. You must apply within one year of the date you acquired the home if you were disabled when you acquired the home, or within one year of the date you became disabled if you became disabled after you acquired the home. **(see instructions)**
- 100% DISABLED VETERANS EXEMPTION:** You may qualify for this exemption if you are a disabled veteran who receives from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its successor: (1) 100 percent disability compensation due to a service-connected disability; and (2) a rating of 100 percent disabled or individual unemployability. If you qualify for a 100% disabled veteran's exemption after January 1 of a tax year, you may receive the exemption for the applicable portion of that tax year immediately on qualification for the exemption. Attach a current copy of your award letter or other document from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.
- EXTENSION OF EXEMPTION FOR A SURVIVING SPOUSE:** If you are a surviving spouse age 55 or older of a person who received or was qualified for the over-65 exemption, or if you are the surviving spouse of a 100% Disabled Veteran you may qualify for an extension of your spouse's exemption, as well as the school tax ceiling. **Attach a copy of your driver's license or state ID card and a copy of your spouse's death certificate.** If your deceased spouse received the disability exemption and not the over-65 exemption, you may be eligible for continuation of a tax ceiling granted by a city, county, or junior college, but you are not eligible for the disability exemption or school tax ceiling.

Deceased Spouse's Name

Date of Death

**Step 4:  
Answer if  
applies**

**COOPERATIVE HOUSING RESIDENTS:** Do you have an exclusive right to occupy this unit because you own stock in a cooperative housing corporation? .....  YES  NO

**Step 5:  
Check if late**

**Application for homestead exemption for prior tax year** \_\_\_\_\_  
Note: You must have met all of the qualifications checked above to receive the prior year tax exemption.

**Step 6:  
Sign and  
date the  
application**

By signing this application, you state that you are qualified for the exemptions checked above. You state that the facts in this application are true and correct. You also state that you do not claim a homestead exemption on another residence in Texas or a homestead exemption on another residence outside this state. You must notify the chief appraiser if and when your right to the exemption(s) ends. You swear or affirm that you have read and understand the penalty for filing a false statement.

Sign \_\_\_\_\_  
Here Authorized Signature(s) of qualified owner(s)

Date

**If you make a false statement on this application, you could be found guilty of a Class A misdemeanor or a state jail felony under Texas Penal Code Section 37.10.**

# Application for Residential Homestead Exemption

More Information:

## Tax Exemptions, Limitations, and Qualification Dates

•**General Residence Homestead Exemptions:** You may only apply for residence homestead exemptions on one property in a tax year. A homestead exemption may include up to 20 acres of land that you actually use in the residential use (occupancy) of your home. Arbitrary factors that are unrelated to that use, such as acreage limits, matching legal descriptions, and contiguous parcels, may not be considered in determining if the land qualifies. To qualify for a homestead exemption, you must own and reside in your home on January 1 of the tax year. If you temporarily move away from your home, you still can qualify for an exemption if you don't establish another principal residence and you intend to return in a period of less than two (2) years. Homeowners in military service outside the U.S. or in a facility providing services related to health, infirmity, or aging may exceed the two-year period.

•**Over-65 or Disability Exemptions:** You may receive an over-65 or disability homestead exemption immediately upon qualification for the exemption. If you have not provided your birth date on this application, you must apply before the first anniversary of your qualification date to receive the exemption in that tax year. For example, if you turn 65 or are disabled on June 1 of the current year, you have until May 31 of the next year to apply for the current tax year's over-65 or disability exemption. This special provision only applies to an over-65 or disability exemption and not to other exemptions for which you may apply.

**Disability Exemptions.** You are entitled to the exemption if you meet the Social Security Administration's tests for disability. In simplest terms:

- 1) You must have a medically determinable physical or mental impairment;
- 2) The impairment must prevent you from engaging in any substantial gainful activity; and
- 3) The impairment must be expected to last for at least 12 continuous months or to result in death.

Alternatively, you will qualify if you are 55 or older and blind and cannot engage in your previous work because of your blindness.

To verify your eligibility, attach a copy of your disability determination letter from Social Security (or other recognized retirement system), or have your physician complete and mail us the HCAD form titled **Physician's Statement Verifying Eligibility for Disability Homestead Exemption.**

•**Tax Limitations:** The over-65 or disability exemption for school taxes includes a school tax limitation, or ceiling. Other types of taxing units – county, city, or junior college – have the option to grant a tax limitation on homesteads of homeowners who are disabled or 65 years of age or older.

•**100% Disabled Veterans:** Certain disabled veterans are eligible for 100% exemptions for their residence homesteads. Current documentation from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) must be submitted to prove that the veteran receives full VA compensation and is either rated at 100% disabled or has a determination of unemployability from the VA. If you qualify for this exemption after Jan. 1 of the tax year you may receive the exemption for the portion of the year for which you qualify.

•**Surviving Spouse Extensions: Age 65 or older** – You qualify for an extension of this exemption if (1) you are 55 years of age or older on the date your spouse died and (2) your deceased spouse was receiving the over-65 exemption on this residence homestead or would have applied and qualified for the exemption in the year of the spouse's death. Disabled: You will not qualify for a disability exemption claimed by your deceased spouse.

You are not entitled to continue the school tax limitation; however, you will be entitled to continue the local option county, city or junior college limitation. 100% Disabled Veteran. You qualify for an extension of this exemption if, at the time of the veteran's death, you were married and this property was your residence. If you re-marry, the exemption ends.

•**Filing Deadlines:** File this application between January 1 and April 30. You may file a late homestead exemption application if you file it no later than one year after the date taxes become delinquent. See the previous over-65 or disability exemptions section for more on late filing.

•**Re-filing:** If the chief appraiser grants the exemptions, you do not need to reapply annually. You must reapply, however, if the chief appraiser requires you to do so by sending you a new application asking you to reapply. You must notify the chief appraiser in writing if and when your right to any exemption ends or your qualifications change. You must reapply if you qualify for additional exemptions based on age or disability in the future. If, however, your application information indicates that your age is 65 or older, or the appraisal district has access to other information that proves you qualify, you need not re-file for the over-65 exemption. To ensure the earliest possible qualification without reapplication, the oldest spouse should complete the application for a married couple.

## Instructions: How to Complete the Application

### Step 1: Owner's Name and Address.

- A. Print your name clearly under Owner's Name.
- B. Print your current mailing address.
- C. **Write your Texas driver's license number or Texas state-issued ID card number in the box. IMPORTANT - Attach a copy of your driver's license or state ID card. THIS IS REQUIRED.**
- D. **IMPORTANT - Attach a copy of your vehicle registration receipt. THIS IS REQUIRED.**

Note: The address on your driver's license or state ID card and the address on your vehicle registration receipt must match the physical location of your residence. Copies of both documents are now REQUIRED for a homestead exemption.

- E. ***If you do not own a motor vehicle, you must complete the affidavit on Page 4, sign it before a Notary Public, and provide a copy of a utility bill for this property showing that it is in your name.***
- F. Complete all information requested on the right side, Step 1.

### Step 2: Describe the property.

Enter the information requested. Enter the number of acres used for residential purposes. **If you are applying for a residential homestead exemption for a manufactured home, you must complete page 3.**

### Step 3: Check exemptions that apply to you.

Complete by checking the boxes that apply. If you check the disability exemption, attach documents verifying your disability. If a surviving spouse, enter all information requested.

### Step 4: Answer if applies.

### Step 5: Check if late.

If you were eligible for an exemption last year, check the box in Step 5 for late filing for the prior tax year.

### Step 6: Sign and date the application.

*You must sign and date this application. Making false statements on your exemption application is a criminal offense.*

**To obtain a list of taxing units and the exemptions each taxing unit offers, visit [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org) or call (713) 957-7800.**



Harris County Appraisal District  
 P. O. Box 922012  
 Houston, Texas 77292-2012  
 (713) 957-7800

# Information for a Residential Homestead for a Manufactured Home

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT:**

Please complete this information in addition to Steps 1-6 on Page 1.

Give the make, model, and identification number of your home:

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_

HUD # \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Serial # \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_



Attach a copy of the statement of ownership and location issued by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs if home is 8' by 40' or larger, or attach a copy of the purchase contract or payment receipt showing you are the owner of the manufactured home. If your title information appears on the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs website, the appraisal district may use the website documents to verify your eligibility.

**If you are unable to establish ownership as outlined above, complete the affidavit below before a Notary Public.**

If it is determined that you own the manufactured home, you may also be eligible to receive the homestead exemption on the land on which it is located. Please answer the following questions.

1. Did you own the manufactured home January 1st of the year for which you are applying?  YES  NO
2. On January 1st did you own all or part of the land on which the manufactured home is located?  
Please provide a copy of your deed.  YES  NO
3. Did you occupy the manufactured home as your principal residence on January 1st of the year  
for which you are applying?  YES  NO

**Affidavit for Manufactured Home Homestead Exemption**

**State of Texas**

**County of** \_\_\_\_\_

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_

who, being by me duly sworn, deposed as follows:

"My name is \_\_\_\_\_, I am over 18 years of age and I am otherwise fully competent  
print name

to make this affidavit. I have personal knowledge of the facts contained herein and all of same are true and correct.

I am the owner of the manufactured home identified above. The seller of the manufactured home did not provide me with a purchase contract, and I could not locate the seller after making a good faith effort.

Further, Affiant sayeth not".

Signature of Affiant \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO** before me, this the

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

(seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_



Harris County Appraisal District  
 P. O. Box 922012  
 Houston, Texas 77292-2012  
 (713) 957-7800

# Affidavits

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Year: \_\_\_\_\_

## NON-OWNERSHIP OF MOTOR VEHICLE AFFIDAVIT

State of Texas

County of \_\_\_\_\_

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared

\_\_\_\_\_ who, being by me duly sworn, deposed as follows:

"My name is \_\_\_\_\_ . I am over 18 years of age and I am otherwise fully competent  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 print name

to make this affidavit. I have personal knowledge of the facts contained herein and all of same are true and correct.

I do not own a vehicle.

Further, Affiant sayeth not".

Signature of Affiant \_\_\_\_\_



**SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO** before me, this the

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ .

(seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

## AGE 65 OR OLDER/DISABLED EXEMPTION AFFIDAVIT

State of Texas

County of \_\_\_\_\_

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_

who, being by me duly sworn, deposed as follows:

"My name is \_\_\_\_\_ . I am over 18 years of age and I am otherwise fully competent  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 print name

to make this affidavit. I have personal knowledge of the facts contained herein and all of same are true and correct.

I have a \_\_\_\_\_ percent ownership in the residence homestead identified in the foregoing exemption application.

Further, Affiant sayeth not".

Signature of Affiant \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO** before me, this the

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ .

(seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_