

RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS FOR 2018

A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home by lowering its taxable value. If your home is valued at \$75,000 and you receive a \$25,000 homestead exemption, your home will be taxed as if it were worth \$50,000 for STERLING CITY ISD taxes.

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. STERLING COUNTY and STERLING COUNTY UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT also offer a 20% discount on the taxes for your homestead.

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 property 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 our 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 each year?

No. If you had a homestead exemption on your home last year, you will not need to reapply 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. If you are 65 this year, you may file for the age 65 or older exemption up to one year after the date you became age 65. And if you became disabled, you need to file for the disabled person's exemption.

When and Where should I file?

File applications **before May 1** at the appraisal district office. Contact us if you need help. The Sterling CAD will try to mail you an application. Applications can also be found on the SCAD website at sterlingcad.org. Click on Forms and complete the Homestead Exemption Form 50-114.

STERLING CAD
sterlingcad@verizon.net
Ronnie Krejci – CA
P.O. Box 28
Sterling City, TX 76951
325-378-7711



Or Contact:

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar
Property Tax Assistance Division
PO Box 13528
Austin, Texas 78711-3528

Or call: (800) 252-9121 and press "2"

On the Web at: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax