



# 5-Year Renewal HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

ALL TEXAS COUNTIES

## For Homeowners

### WHAT'S THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION?

The Texas homestead exemption reduces property taxes for homeowners by exempting a portion of their home's value from taxation.

### THE NEW 5-YEAR RULE

State law requires appraisal districts to verify eligibility every 5 years. If a District cannot confirm that an exemption should remain on the property, they are required to ask the property owner to reapply and verify their information to continue their benefits. *(Texas Property Tax Code 11.43 (h-1))*

Homeowners will receive a reverification form from the County Appraisal District (CAD) and must return it by the deadline on the form to keep their exemption. **If it's not returned on time, the exemption could be removed, and taxes will go up.** The deadline to submit your information is listed on your notification. Verifying your eligibility is easy and can be completed online in just a few minutes.

Action on your verification will occur within 90 days from the date it is received. If it is determined that you no longer qualify for your exemptions, you will be notified and offered an opportunity to protest the decision.

### WHY THE CHANGE?

This rule ensures that only homeowners who qualify for the exemption continue to receive it.

### IMPACT ON HOMEOWNERS

Homeowners should keep an eye out for the form from their CAD and make sure they complete and return it before the deadline. It's an easy step to ensure they stay on track.

### HOW TO RENEW

The form will come with clear instructions on how to fill it out and where to send it. It's important to follow those instructions to avoid issues.

### CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Homeowners can check on the status of their homestead exemption by going to their county's appraisal district website. [Click here for a list of all county appraisal district websites.](#) A quick property search should reveal which exemptions are valid.

### IF YOU LOST YOUR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

If the homestead exemption is removed there is a possibility that the new tax amount will not honor the

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previous years of exemptions. There is a two-page document where homeowners must confirm that the property is their primary residence, and the address on their state-issued driver's license or ID must match the home's physical address. If you have already paid your taxes at the higher rate, there's good news—refunds are possible.

# Real Estate Professionals

## HOW DOES THE 5-YEAR RULE AFFECT TRANSACTIONS?

As a real estate professional, you'll want to educate your clients about this new requirement. If your clients have had a homestead exemption for 5 years or more, they need to fill out and return the form by the deadline. Missing the deadline could result in higher property taxes.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Remind your clients to watch for the form and make sure it gets sent back on time. It's an easy way to ensure their exemption stays in place.

*More info on Homestead  
Tax Exemptions*



*Travis County GAO  
has helpful FAQ's*



Helping clients capitalize on tax freezes and Homestead Exemptions is more than just a value-added service—it's an essential component of the high-performing realtor's toolkit. By partnering with Patten Title and ensuring these benefits are applied, you not only safeguard your clients' financial interests but also enhance your reputation for excellence in the real estate industry.