

Homestead Exemptions

NEW PROPERTY TAX HOMESTEAD LAW IS NOW IN EFFECT

A new state law that took effect on 9/1/11 (and was revised 9/1/13) has changed proof of residency requirements for Texas homeowners applying for a homestead exemption.

In order to be able to provide the required documentation for the Texas residential homestead exemption, home buyers must update their address with their local Tax Assessor/Collector office (for vehicle registration) and with the Texas Department of Public Safety (for driver's licenses).

The Tax Assessor/Collector main office is at 500 E. Overland, El Paso, Texas 79901 (915) 546-2140.

<http://www.epcounty.com/taxoffice/officelocations.htm> for additional locations.

For DPS locations, http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/driver_licensing_control/rolodex/search.asp

The *Application for Residential Homestead Exemption* is available on the El Paso Central Appraisal District Website - <http://epcad.org/forms.htm> (click on the link named "Homestead Exemption").

For your application you will need:

- A copy of your driver's license or identification card from the Texas Department of Public Safety. The address **MUST MATCH** the homestead address.
- Effective September 1, 2013 homeowners are no longer required to provide a copy of their vehicle registration. But if you own a vehicle, it does need to be registered at your homestead address.

IMPORTANT - The Homestead Exemption will NOT be allowed unless all the required documents show the same homestead address.

The new requirements also apply to applications for the over 65, disability, disabled Veterans, homeowner's surviving spouse, and manufactured (mobile) home exemptions.

To qualify you must own your home on January 1 for the year you are applying for **and** you must file the form and additional information with El Paso Central Appraisal by April 30th of that year. The new requirements **do not** apply to homeowners who already have homestead exemptions.

For more information, contact the El Paso Central Appraisal District:

5801 Trowbridge
El Paso, Texas 79925
(915) 780-2000
www.epcad.org

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