



ANN HARRIS BENNETT

Tax Assessor-Collector
www.hctax.net



**Presented by
Harris County Tax Office Outreach Department**



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Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD) Responsibilities

Appraisal & Protests

- Appraise all county residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural and business personal property
 - at 100% of market value
 - as of January 1 of each year

- Accept Protest Requests
 - Protest deadline on the form
 - Unique iFile number on the form
 - Deadline is May 15 or 30 days from date of notice
 - Applies to market value

Manage Exemptions

- Exemptions reduce the Appraised Value before tax rates are applied at
 - General residence homestead
 - Over age 65
 - Over age 55 surviving spouse
 - Disability
 - Disabled veterans
 - Survivor of a first responder killed in the line of duty
 - Heirship exemption
 - Temporary disaster exemption

- Exemptions are not granted automatically. You must apply between Jan 1st and April 30th.



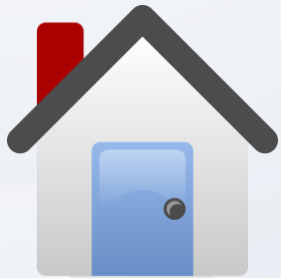
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How Your Tax Bill is Calculated

Your property value is determined by the Harris County Appraisal District, then multiplied by the tax rate set by each taxing unit assessed on your property



Taxable Value
Determined by
Appraisal District

Property Tax Rates
Set by Taxing Jurisdictions



Tax Bill
From Tax Assessor-
Collector



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Tax Ceiling

- For people who are over 65 or disabled.
- Provides for a school tax ceiling on residence homesteads
- School tax will not increase above the school tax ceiling limit unless major improvements are done to the property.
- If the owner moves during the calendar year, they may transfer the school tax ceiling percentage rate from the old property to the new property during that tax year.

Local Tax Limitation

- For homeowners who are over 65 or disabled that meet Social Security disability guidelines.
- Allows cities, counties, or junior college districts or their voters to adopt a tax limitation



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Tax Deferrals

- Applies to homeowners who are over 65, their surviving spouse or who meet Social Security disability guidelines for their residence homestead.
- The deferral **only** postpones, but does not cancel the taxes. Taxes will continue to accrue interest at a rate of 5% per year.
- As soon as the property is no longer the person's homestead, all taxes and annual interest become due.
- The taxpayer has 180 days to pay the taxes without additional penalty or interest.
- Homeowners are advised to consult mortgage companies prior to applying because mortgage companies might not recognize this qualification due to their lien right.
- Homeowners are also advised to discuss with their heirs prior to applying so that heirs can take actions accordingly to avoid immediate property taxes being due when they inherit the properties.
- Deferral application can be made any time. Once filed, the owner can't be displaced. The property can't be sold for taxes as long it is their residence homestead.



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Payment Plans for Delinquent Taxes

For a property with a **Homestead Exemption**:

- A 12 to 36 month payment is available. It may include all delinquent years.

For other properties:

- A 12 month payment plan is available for the current tax year from February 1 through June 30 when all prior year taxes are paid in full.

You may request a payment plan by one of following ways:

Email tax.office@hctx.net

Fax 713-368-2219

Mail to: **P.O. Box 4663**

Houston, TX 77210-4663

Phone : 713-274-8000

Pre-payment Plans

- Accepting advanced payments for this year's property taxes
- Pay any amount at any time for an unbilled tax year
- Only accept payment made by check
- Indicate property account number & tax year on payment





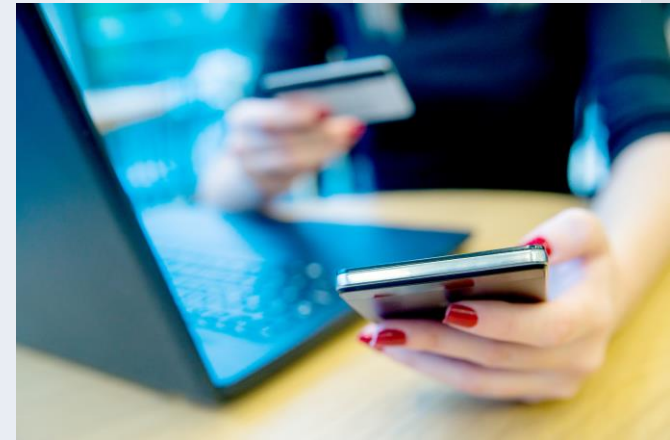
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Payment Options

Tax Office mails out property tax bill statements in October. Property tax payments are due by January 31 in order to be considered timely. You can make full or partial payments on current and/or prior tax years (not by telephone)

- **Online** at our website www.hctax.net
 - We accept American Express, Discover, MasterCard and VISA credit cards and VISA and MasterCard debit cards
 - In person at ALL tax office locations
 - All cards charge a 2.35% process fee except VISA consumer debit, which charges a flat \$3.95
- **E-Check** is accepted by any of the following methods:
 - Online at www.hctax.net
 - By touch-tone at 713-368- CARD (2273) Via the “Bill Pay” function at the taxpayer’s bank



- **By Mail**

Mail to : **Ann Harris Bennet**

**Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector
P.O. Box 4622
Houston, TX 77210-4622**

Postmark is required to be on or prior to January 31. Accept both checks (personal, business, cashiers or travelers checks) and Money Orders

- By touch-tone **phone** (except for VISA) at 713-368- CARD (2273)

- **Cash**

- In person at ALL tax office locations
- Accept checks (personal, business, cashiers or travelers checks) and Money Orders



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How do I make In-person appointment?

The Tax Office is open for in person *appointments* Monday-Friday from 8am-4:30pm.

You can make your online reservation on our website at
<https://www.hctax.net/Property/Appointments/Appointment>

If you have any questions about the value, name/address change, and/or exemptions please contact the **Harris County Appraisal District** at help@hcad.org or visit their website at www.hcad.org

We Are Here to Help You

- Auto Services: autotdmv@hctx.net
- Property Tax Services: tax.office@hctx.net
- Phone: 713-274-8000