

Glenn Hegar Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts



Property Tax Assistance

Disabled Veterans and Surviving Spouses Exemptions Frequently Asked Questions

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How do I qualify for the 100 percent disabled veteran's residence homestead exemption?

You can find out if you qualify and how to apply for the exemption under Tax Code Section 11.131 in the 100 Percent Disabled Veterans FAQ [comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/exemptions/disabledvet-100-faq.php].

What is the deadline for filing for a homestead exemption?

You may file for any homestead exemption up to two years after the delinquency date. The delinquency date is normally Feb. 1. If you are age 65 or older or disabled, you qualify for the exemption on the date you become age 65 or become disabled. To receive the exemption for that year, age 65 or older or disabled homeowners must apply for the exemption no later than one year from the date you qualify or two years after the delinquency date, whichever is later. If you miss the deadline you may apply for the following year.

Is the disabled veteran's exemption the same as the disabled person's exemption?

No. To receive a **disabled veteran** exemption, you must either be a veteran who was disabled while serving with the U.S. armed forces or the surviving spouse or child (under age 18 and unmarried) of a disabled veteran or of a member of the armed forces who was killed while on active duty. You must be a veteran of the U.S. armed forces who is classified as disabled by the Veteran's Administration or the armed services branch in which you served and have a service-connected disability. The disabled veteran must be a Texas resident and must choose one property to receive the exemption.

What is the amount of the disabled veteran's exemption?

The exemption amount that a qualified disabled veteran receives depends on the veteran's disability rating from the branch of the armed service.

Disability Exemption

Disability Rating	Exemption Amount Up To
10% to 29%	\$5,000 from the property's value

30% to 49%	\$7,500 from the property's value
50% to 69%	\$10,000 from the property's value
70% to 100%	\$12,000 from the property's value

A disabled veteran may also qualify for an exemption of \$12,000 of the assessed value of the property if the veteran is age 65 or older with a disability rating of at least 10 percent; totally blind in one or both eyes; or has lost use of one or more limbs.

May I file for a disabled veteran's exemption after the deadline has passed?

Yes. The deadline for filing for a disabled veteran's exemption is between Jan. 1 and April 30 of the tax year. However, you may file for a disabled veteran's exemption up to five years from the delinquency date. To file for a disabled veteran's exemption, you must complete the Application for Disabled Veteran's or Survivor's Exemptions [comptroller.texas.gov/forms/50-135.pdf] form and submit it to the appraisal district in which the property is located.

If my house was donated by a charitable organization am I still eligible for the disabled veteran's exemption?

A disabled veteran is allowed an exemption equal to his or her disability rating (if rating less than 100 percent) on residence homestead donated by charitable organization. The same percentage exemption extends to the surviving spouse, if the surviving spouse has not remarried, the property was the surviving spouse's homestead when the disabled veteran died and remains his or her residence homestead.

If my spouse died while serving in the United States military, do I qualify for an exemption?

A surviving spouse of a member of the U.S. armed services killed in action is allowed a total property tax exemption on his or her residence homestead if the surviving spouse has not remarried since the death of the armed services member.

May I use my Department of Public Safety personal identification certificate or driver's license for proof of my disability rating?

No, these forms of identification are not satisfactory proof of disability rating for property tax exemptions purposes.