

# Temporary Exemption for Disaster Damage

Governor Abbott declared the entire state of Texas a disaster area on February 12, 2021



Tax Code Section 11.35 allows a qualified property that is at least 15 percent damaged by a disaster in a Governor Declared disaster area to receive a temporary exemption of a portion of the appraised value of the property. A property owner must apply for the temporary exemption no later than 105 days after the governor declares a disaster area.

Governor Abbott declared the entire state of Texas a disaster area on February 12, 2021.  
**The deadline for filing the application for the exemption is May 28, 2021.**

**Link to application:** [Temporary Exemption for Disaster Damage](#)

**Mail the completed application with requested documentation to your appraisal district.**

## Qualified property includes:

- Tangible personal property used for income production;
- Improvements to real property; and certain manufactured homes.

The chief appraiser determines if the property qualifies for the temporary exemption and assigns a damage assessment rating of Level I, II, III or IV. The chief appraiser may rely on information from a county emergency management authority, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or other appropriate sources when making this determination.

Level	Damage Assessment	Damage Description	Exemption Percentage
I	15% < 30%	Minimal, may continue to be used as intended	15%
II	30% < 60%	Nonstructural damage and waterline <18" above floor	30%
III	60% < 100%	Significant structural damage and waterline 18"+ above floor	60%
IV	100%	Total loss; repair is not feasible	100%

The damage assessment rating determines the percentage of appraised value of the qualified property to be exempted. The amount of the exemption is determined by multiplying the property value after applying the damage assessment rating to a fraction (365 divided by the number of days remaining in the tax year after the date the governor declares the disaster).

The chief appraiser must send written notice of the approval, modification or denial of the application to the applicant no later than five days after making the determination. The temporary disaster area exemption expires on Jan. 1 of the first tax year in which the property is reappraised.