



Linda D. Thompson, Mayor  
Harrisburg City Council



Department of Building  
and Housing Development  
Bureau of Codes  
Phone: 255-6553

# Tax Abatement 2005-2010 Application for Exemption

## NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

Under the provisions of Chapter 5-503 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Harrisburg you may be entitled to a property tax exemption on your contemplated alterations or new construction. An application for exemption may be secured from the Bureau of Codes Administration and shall be filed with the City at the time a building or alteration permit is secured. (Ord. 48-2005, passed April 12, 2005).

<b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	
_____	____/____/____
Property number	Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Address

If my property is reassessed upwards as a result of the improvements or new construction I plan to undertake, I wish to receive and hereby apply for the exemption entitled me under the provisions of Chapter 5-503 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Harrisburg.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner's Signature

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Or Authorized Agent

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Tax Abatement Fact Sheet

### What is the Tax Abatement Program?

The Tax Abatement Program provides a financial incentive for improving a property. Owners of business or residential property who are planning improvements to an existing structure or planning to build on a vacant lot are encouraged to apply for tax abatement. If the improvements you make to your property result in the County increasing the assessment on your property (which normally causes your taxes to go up) tax abatement provides temporary relief from these additional City, Dauphin County and Harrisburg School District real estate taxes. Full taxation of the increased value of your property is deferred for a period of time based on the type and value of improvements.

### Do all improvements result in a reassessment?

No. Normal maintenance improvements generally do not result in a reassessment. Major improvements, such as structural additions, major reconstruction, or expanding the habitable area of the building, will often result in reassessment. Reassessment policy is determined by Dauphin County.

### Is there a maximum amount to which I am entitled?

The maximum permissible exemption per residential dwelling is \$62,755 for calendar year 2005. This amount will increase once a year to allow for inflation. The maximum exemption for new residential construction is \$130,000. The maximum exemption for business or commercial structures is \$10,000,000.

### How do I apply for tax abatement?

In order to qualify for tax abatement benefits, a property owner must file for tax abatement at the same time he or she applies for a building permit for the intended improvements or new construction. All necessary electrical, plumbing, zoning and building permits must be obtained prior to beginning work.

Apply for tax abatement and permits in the Bureau of Codes Administration, Suite 205, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. City Government Center, 10 N. Market Square, Harrisburg, telephone 255-6552.

## Tax Abatement Exemption Schedule

Please circle number applicable to your improvement

	Year 1 Amount	Year 2 Amount	Year 3 Amount	Year 4 Amount	Year 5 Amount	Year 6 Amount	Year 7 Amount	Year 8 Amount	Year 9 Amount	Year 10 Amount
(1) *Residential Improvements Under \$50,000	100%	80%	60%	40%	20%	—	—	—	—	—
(2) **New Residential Construction	100%	100%	100%	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(7) **Business Improvement Under \$50,000	100%	80%	60%	40%	20%	—	—	—	—	—
(8) ** Business/Residential Improvement \$50,000 or more	100%	90%	80%	70%	60%	50%	40%	30%	20%	10%

\* The date of the construction of the residential improvement shall be the date of the issuance of building permit or the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, which ever is appropriate.

\*\* The effective date for abatement shall be the date of the issuance of the certificate of compliance.

NOTE: The exemption from real property taxes granted pursuant to the provisions hereof shall be upon the property exempted and shall not terminate upon the sale or exchange of the property. In the event of reassessment by the County, City or School District, tax abatement shall be proportionally applied to any new assessment so long as the tax abatement period for the property or project in question had not expired. This application is to ensure that each property or project affected by tax abatement received the same percentage of tax benefits before and after reassessment.