

FIRST RESPONDERS MAY APPLY FOR ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION IN ACADIA PARISH

The Acadia Parish Assessor's Office will be accepting applications from first responders who own and occupy their home and work for a public agency in Acadia Parish. The dates for submission of these forms will be **May 1, 2026 - June 30, 2026.**

To qualify, a first responder must be a full-time public employee whose duties include responding rapidly to emergencies and who resides in the same parish as their employer. The following positions are eligible for this exemption:

- **Peace Officers:** This includes sheriffs, police officers, and other deputized individuals as defined in La. R.S. 40:2402.
- **Fire Protection Personnel**
- **Certified Emergency Medical Services Personnel**
- **Emergency Response Operators and Dispatchers:** Those who provide communication support in emergencies.

This tax benefit is provided by Act 179, a Constitutional Amendment passed during the 2023 legislative session and ratified by Louisiana voters on November 18, 2023. This tax benefit for qualified first responders creates an additional ad valorem tax exemption of \$2,500 off the assessed value of properties owned and occupied by first responders in Acadia Parish. This is in addition to the Homestead Exemption which exempts the first \$7,500 of the property's taxable assessment, for a total tax benefit of \$10,000 off the taxable assessment.

First responders must submit an application for the exemption along with an employment verification letter on the official letterhead of the public agency they are employed by and provide a valid driver's license or state ID. The applications are available on the Forms page at www.acadiaassessor.org.

Completed applications with supporting documentation can be:

- Dropped off at our Acadia Parish Courthouse Office, 500 Court Circle, Room 213
- Mailed to **Acadia Parish Assessor's Office, P.O. Box 1329, Crowley, LA 70527**

Important Dates and Additional Information

- **Application Deadline:** All applications and supporting documents must be received by the Acadia Parish Assessor's Office no later than **June 30, 2026.**
- **Annual Reapplication:** By law, first responders must reapply each year to continue receiving this benefit.
- **More Information:** For additional details, visit www.acadiaassessor.org

Public agencies employing first responders are encouraged to assist their qualifying employees in taking advantage of this benefit and to be prepared to manage requests for employment verification.



**James J. Petitjean, CLA
Assessor of Acadia Parish**

500 Court Circle, Rm. 213 . Crowley, LA 70526
337-788-8871 . www.acadiaassessor.org

Please deliver a signed and notarized application to the address listed above

2026

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL TAX EXEMPTION

Pursuant to Act 179 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session

TO BE FILLED OUT BY SUPERVISOR OF SAID VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER (Fire Chief, Chief Admin Officer, Chief of Staff or equivalent):

_____, (Applicant/Volunteer Firefighter Name printed) for the YEAR _____ as a Volunteer

Firefighter meets the following requirements:

(Applicant/Volunteer Firefighter Property Address)

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

_____ Has completed no fewer than 24 hours of firefighter continuing education within the current year. **AND**

_____ Is an active member of the Louisiana State Fireman’s Association. **OR**

_____ Is on the departmental personnel roster of the Volunteer Firefighter Insurance Program.

(Supervisor Signature) (Printed Name) (Title)

(Volunteer Firefighter Signature) (Printed Name) (Title)

Louisiana Revised Statute Title 47, Section 1703 provides a maximum penalty of \$500- and six-months imprisonment for any person who knowingly furnishes false information for the purpose of procuring any tax exemption or benefit.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned Notary Public, duly commissioned and qualified within and for the State and Parish aforesaid,

personally came and appeared _____, (Supervisor, printed name) representing the office of

_____, (Public Entity Name printed) who declares

_____, (Volunteer Firefighter printed name) meets the aforesaid qualifications pursuant to Act 179 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, THIS _____ DAY OF _____, _____.
(Day) (Month) (Year)

Notary Public Printed Name Commission Number

Internal Use Only:

(Parcel Number) (Address of Property) (Deputy Assessor Name)



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2026

**FIRST RESPONDER APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL TAX EXEMPTION
Pursuant to Act 179 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session**

TO BE FILLED OUT BY SUPERVISOR OF SAID FIRST RESPONDER (Chief of Police, Sheriff, Fire Chief, Chief Admin Officer, Chief of Staff or equivalent):

_____, (Applicant/First Responder Name printed) for the YEAR _____ as

_____, (Title of Job as described below) meets the following requirements:

(Applicant/First Responder Property Address)

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

_____ Full Time employee. **AND**

_____ Duties require responding rapidly to an emergency. **AND**

_____ Resides in the same Parish as employer. **AND**

_____ As of this date is currently employed by said PUBLIC entity as a FULL TIME Peace Officer (Sheriff Deputy, Police Officer, or other person deputized by proper authority to serve as a peace officer) **OR** Fire protection personnel **OR** Certified Emergency services personnel **OR** Emergency response operator **OR** Emergency services dispatcher.

(Supervisor Signature) (Printed Name) (Title)

(First Responder Signature) (Printed Name) (Title)

Louisiana Revised Statute Title 47, Section 1703 provides a maximum penalty of \$500 - and six-months imprisonment for any person who knowingly furnishes false information for the purpose of procuring any tax exemption or benefit.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned Notary Public, duly commissioned and qualified within and for the State and Parish aforesaid, personally came and appeared _____, (Supervisor, printed name) representing the office of _____, (Public Entity Name printed) who declares _____, (First Responder printed name) meets the aforesaid qualifications pursuant to Act 179 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, THIS _____ DAY OF _____, _____.
(Day) (Month) (Year)

Notary Public Printed Name Commission Number

Internal Use Only:

(Parcel Number) (Address of Property) (Deputy Assessor Name)