



APRIL 2018

Unclaimed Property Capital Credits for Counties

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Texas Comptroller of
Public Accounts

In conjunction with Local Government Code, Section 381.004, Texas Property Code, Section 74.602 authorizes the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (Comptroller's office) to allocate a portion of the unclaimed capital credits received from electric cooperatives back to the counties in the cooperatives' service area.

What are unclaimed capital credits?

Electric cooperatives that have lost contact with a previous customer sometimes report capital credits to the Comptroller's office as unclaimed property. Texas law allows counties to claim a portion of unclaimed capital credits originating from their county and use them for specific programs.

How are funds divided among counties?

- Electric cooperatives report unclaimed capital credits and the county of service from which they originated.
- The amount available to each county is based on that county's total capital credits remitted per reporting year, minus anticipated claims as determined by the Comptroller's office.
- A county may or may not receive funds in a given year.

Who qualifies?

- Any county can request a portion of those funds.
- The county must follow instructions in Local Government Code, Section 381.004 to request funds.
- The commissioners court is the primary governing body and ultimate decision-making authority on the legitimacy of fund requests.

General uses of capital credits

The county commissioners court may use capital credits to develop and administer a program:*

- for state or local economic development
- for small or disadvantaged business development
- to stimulate, encourage and develop business location and commercial activity in the county
- to promote or advertise the county and its vicinity or conduct a solicitation program to attract conventions, visitors and businesses
- to improve the extent to which women and minority businesses are awarded county contracts
- to support comprehensive literacy programs that benefit county residents
- for the encouragement, promotion, improvement and application of the arts
- to support a children's advocacy center

*Review Local Government Code, Section 381.004 before starting a program.

How to request capital credits

The county judge and/or commissioners court must complete and submit the form on the back of this notice.

- The form must be signed by a representative of the commissioners court or the county judge.
- The form must include the complete name, address and federal tax identification number of the commissioners court. Funds will be paid directly to the court.

For more information,
visit our website at
ClaimItTexas.org.

For questions on
Capital Credits contact
our Holder Reporting
and Education Section
800-321-2274, option 2.

August 31, 2020

(Exhibit #3)

We will receive a check for \$4,058.00 from Unclaimed Capital Credits for 2019. As you know, and the information you have explains, you are limited in how you can distribute it. Generally speaking, you can apply it to various business developments (small, disadvantaged, women and minority), comprehensive literature programs, the arts or child advocacy.

I recommend the following division of these funds equally among these county non-profit organizations:

- \$676.33 Good Samaritan's FOOD FOR THOUGHT PROGRAM. They provide food weekly to 150 kids from 13 school campuses in Brown County throughout the year.
- \$676.33 The Child Advocacy Center provides services to children and families of physical or sexual assault and domestic violence.
- \$\$676.33 Court Appointed Special Advocates provides best-interest advocacy to children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect.
- \$\$676.33 The ARK provides safe shelter and trauma-informed services to some of the most vulnerable children and families in the community who are victims of domestic violence or sexual victimization.
- \$\$676.33 Brown County Historical Commission oversees preservation in the county. Earlier this year, Brown County was designated as a Certified Local Government by the National Park Service and Texas Historical Commission. Brown is only the 18th county in Texas to earn this designation. This money will provide funds to train our Brown County Historical Commission members on the CLG committee.
- \$676.33 The Brown County Museum receives funding from the county, but not adequate to cover all expenses. The museum is the only entity in the county that actively preserves county historical artifacts and provides programming and education for school children, not just static displays.