

Charleston County News Release

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Council Extends Deadline for Accommodations Tax Applications

Government entities and 501(c) groups can apply through Thursday, June 4

During a <u>Charleston County Council</u> meeting on Thursday, May 22, Council voted to reopen the accommodations tax application deadline. Applications will be accepted through 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 4.

The local accommodations tax is known as the "tourist tax," and is a two percent tax paid on hotel rooms in Charleston County. The accommodations tax is available under state law SC 6-1-530 (visit http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t06c001.htm and scroll down to 530) for the following tourism-related expenditures:

- Advertising and promotion related to tourism development
- Maintenance or operation of tourist-related building or facility
- · Construction of tourist-related building or facility
- Beach renourishment

Council has committed \$175,000 for the fiscal year 2010 budget (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010) toward the accommodations tax, \$25,000 of which will go toward entities in the unincorporated areas of Charleston County.

Applications from government entities and 501(c) tax exempt agencies will be considered for funding.

For more information:

- Charleston County's Web site is the primary source for accessing the application. To view the application online, go to http://www.charlestoncounty.org/Departments/Budget/index.htm.
- Questions regarding pages 1-3 of the applications should be addressed to Daryl Brigman in the Charleston County Budget Office by e-mail at dbrigman@charlestoncounty.org.
- Questions regarding pages 4-6 (the scoring system used by the Charleston Area Visitor's Bureau) should be addressed to Laurie Lynn Smith by e-mail at Ismith@charlestonCVB.com.

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