

Charleston County News Release

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Workshop on Jan. 8 for Accommodations Tax Applicants

Government entities and 501(c) groups are encouraged to attend the County's preapplication workshop

<u>Charleston County Government</u> is holding a pre-application workshop to explain the Fiscal Year 2011 (July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011) <u>Accommodation Tax application</u> process.

The workshop will be held on Friday, Jan. 8, at 9 a.m. in the Charleston County Council Chambers on the second floor of the Lonnie Hamilton III, Public Services Building located at 4045 Bridge View Drive in North Charleston.

All potential applicants are encouraged to attend the Jan. 8 workshop.

Applications from government entities and 501(c) tax-exempt agencies will be considered for funding. All applicants should be aware that there are limited funds available for distribution in Fiscal Year 2011 due to the economy and the resulting lack of Accommodations Tax funds.

The local accommodations tax is known as the "tourist tax," and is a 2 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

Last year, Charleston County Council committed \$175,000 from the Fiscal Year 2010 budget (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010) for qualifying applicants.

For more information:

- View the application on Charleston County's Web site: http://www.charlestoncounty.org/Departments/Budget/index.htm.
- Questions regarding pages 1-3 of the application should be addressed to Daryl Brigman in the Charleston County Budget Office by e-mail at dbrigman@charlestoncounty.org or by phone at (843) 958-4644.
- Questions regarding pages 4-6 (the scoring system used by the Charleston Area Visitors Bureau) should be addressed to Laurie Lynn Smith by e-mail at Ismith@charlestonCVB.com.

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