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McAllen vacation rental checklist

Hidalgo County, Texas | Rules checked November 8, 2026

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We found no short-term rental permit in McAllen. Stays owe 6% state plus 7% city hotel tax and a 2% venue tax, which Airbnb doesn't collect; the city takes monthly reports.

> We searched for McAllen short-term rental rules in November 2026 and found none.

Licensing steps

STATE OF TEXAS

- [ ] **Know who pays the hotel tax**
  Airbnb collects and pays the 6% state hotel tax on its bookings. If guests pay you directly or through a site that doesn't collect, register with the Comptroller and file the state tax yourself.
  Texas hotel occupancy tax: https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/hotel/
- [ ] **Register for local hotel tax**
  Your city (and in some places your county) charges its own hotel tax, filed with that city or county, not the state. Airbnb pays it only in the places on its list; everywhere else you register and file it yourself, even for Airbnb bookings.
- [ ] **Check your city's rules**
  Many Texas cities require a short-term rental permit or registration, and some require an inspection, a local contact, or posted rules. Outside city limits there's usually no permit, but deed restrictions and HOA rules often limit rentals. Pick your area for the local rules.

HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS

- [ ] **Then your city**
  Texas counties can't zone, so rental rules come from the city your home is in. Outside city limits there's usually no permit, but deed restrictions and HOA rules may limit rentals. Pick your city.

CITY OF MCALLEN

- [ ] **Hotel taxes on each stay**
  Stays of 29 nights or less owe the 6% state hotel tax, which Airbnb collects on its bookings. If guests pay you directly, file it with the Texas Comptroller. McAllen's local hotel taxes aren't on Airbnb's collection list. File the city's hotel occupancy tax form monthly with the Finance Department by the 15th of the next month.
  McAllen hotel occupancy tax form: https://mcallen.net/departments/finance/hotel-occupancy-tax-form
- [ ] **Ask the city about a permit**
  Ask the City of McAllen whether zoning allows a short-term rental at your address and whether you need a permit. Check your deed restrictions and HOA rules too.

Who to contact

McAllen Finance Department: 956-681-1060

Official sources

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts: Hotel Occupancy Tax FAQs: Airbnb. https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/hotel/airbnb-faq.php

Airbnb: Occupancy tax collection and remittance by Airbnb in Texas. https://www.airbnb.com/help/article/2331

Texas Legislature: County zoning authority (Local Government Code ch. 231). https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/LG/htm/LG.231.htm

City of McAllen Finance Department: Hotel Occupancy Tax Form. https://mcallen.net/departments/finance/hotel-occupancy-tax-form
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (data.texas.gov): Local Hotel Occupancy Tax Reporting 2025. https://data.texas.gov/d/er34-v24h