

# APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM AUDIT

## SHORT FORM

IF EITHER REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES EXCEED \$100,000, USE THE LONG FORM.

Under the Local Government Audit Law (Section 29-1-601, et seq., C.R.S.) any local government may apply for an exemption from audit if neither revenues nor expenditures exceed \$750,000 in the year.

### EXEMPTIONS FROM AUDIT ARE NOT AUTOMATIC

To qualify for exemption from audit, a local government must complete an Application for Exemption from Audit EACH YEAR and submit it to the Office of the State Auditor (OSA).

Any preparer of an Application for Exemption from Audit-SHORT FORM must be a person skilled in governmental accounting.

Approval for an exemption from audit is granted only upon the review by the OSA.

### READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING THIS FORM

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE FILED WITH THE OSA WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE ACCOUNTING YEAR-END.

FOR EXAMPLE, APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE OSA ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31 FOR GOVERNMENTS WITH A DECEMBER 31 YEAR-END.

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITY SHOULD BE REPORTED ON THE MODIFIED ACCRUAL BASIS  
PROPRIETARY ACTIVITY SHOULD BE REPORTED ON A BUDGETARY BASIS

POSTMARK DATES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS PROOF OF SUBMISSION ON OR BEFORE THE STATUTORY DEADLINE

PRIOR YEAR FORMS ARE OBSOLETE AND WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.  
APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED ON FORMS OTHER THAN THOSE PRESCRIBED BY THE OSA WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

FOR YOUR REFERENCE, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES CAN BE FOUND AT:

<http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/Colorado/>

APPLICATIONS MUST BE FULLY AND ACCURATELY COMPLETED.

## CHECKLIST

- Has the preparer signed the application?
- Has the entity corrected all Prior Year Deficiencies as communicated by the OSA?
- Has the application been PERSONALLY reviewed and approved by the governing body?
- Did you include any relevant explanations for unusual items in the appropriate spaces at the end of each section?
- Will this application be submitted electronically?
  - If yes, have you read and understand the new Electronic Signature Policy? See new policy -> [here](#)
  - or--
  - If yes, have you included a resolution?
    - Does the resolution state that the governing body PERSONALLY reviewed and approved the resolution in an open public meeting?
    - Has the resolution been signed by a MAJORITY of the governing body? (See sample resolution.)
- Will this application be submitted via a mail service? (e.g. US Post Office, FedEx, UPS, courier.)
  - If yes, does the application include ORIGINAL INK SIGNATURES from the MAJORITY of the governing body?

## FILING METHODS

**NEW METHOD!** Register and submit your Applications at our new portal!

**WEB PORTAL:** <https://apps.leg.co.gov/osa/lg>

**MAIL:** Office of the State Auditor  
Local Government Audit Division  
1525 Sherman St., 7th Floor  
Denver, CO 80203

**QUESTIONS?** Email: [osa.lg@coleg.gov](mailto:osa.lg@coleg.gov) OR Phone: 303-869-3000

## IMPORTANT!

All Applications for Exemption from Audit are subject to review and approval by the Office of the State Auditor.

Governmental Activity should be reported on the Modified Accrual Basis

Proprietary Activity should be reported on the Cash or Budgetary Basis

Failure to file an application or denial of the request could cause the local government to lose its exemption from audit for that year and the ensuing year.

In that event, AN AUDIT SHALL BE REQUIRED.

# APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM AUDIT

## SHORT FORM

NAME OF GOVERNMENT  
ADDRESS

Cottonwood Thermo Metropolitan District  
1151 Eagle Drive, Suite 366  
Loveland, CO 80537

For the Year Ended  
12/31/22  
or fiscal year ended:

CONTACT PERSON  
PHONE  
EMAIL

Michael Davis  
720-279-4242  
[specialdistricts@mdavislawoffice.com](mailto:specialdistricts@mdavislawoffice.com)

## PART 1 - CERTIFICATION OF PREPARER

I certify that I am skilled in governmental accounting and that the information in the application is complete and accurate, to the best of my knowledge.

NAME:  
TITLE  
FIRM NAME (if applicable)  
ADDRESS  
PHONE  
DATE PREPARED

Kevin Collins  
Accountant for the District  
  
PO Box 625, Franktown, Colorado 80116  
303-521-8625  
2-Oct-23

## PREPARER (SIGNATURE REQUIRED)

DocuSigned by:  
*Kevin Collins*  
0AE947A93A584D4...

Please indicate whether the following financial information is recorded using Governmental or Proprietary fund types

**GOVERNMENTAL**  
(MODIFIED ACCRUAL BASIS)



**PROPRIETARY**  
(CASH OR BUDGETARY BASIS)



## PART 2 - REVENUE

REVENUE: All revenues for all funds must be reflected in this section, including proceeds from the sale of the government's land, building, and equipment, and proceeds from debt or lease transactions. Financial information will not include fund equity information.

Line#	Description	Round to nearest Dollar	
2-1	<b>Taxes: Property</b> (report mills levied in Question 10-6)	\$ -	Please use this space to provide any necessary explanations
2-2	Specific ownership	\$ -	
2-3	Sales and use	\$ -	
2-4	Other (specify):	\$ -	
2-5	Licenses and permits	\$ -	
2-6	<b>Intergovernmental: Grants</b>	\$ -	
2-7	Conservation Trust Funds (Lottery)	\$ -	
2-8	Highway Users Tax Funds (HUTF)	\$ -	
2-9	Other (specify):	\$ -	
2-10	Charges for services	\$ -	
2-11	Fines and forfeits	\$ -	
2-12	Special assessments	\$ -	
2-13	Investment income	\$ -	
2-14	Charges for utility services	\$ -	
2-15	Debt proceeds (should agree with line 4-4, column 2)	\$ -	
2-16	Lease proceeds	\$ -	
2-17	Developer Advances received (should agree with line 4-4)	\$ -	
2-18	Proceeds from sale of capital assets	\$ -	
2-19	Fire and police pension	\$ -	
2-20	Donations	\$ -	
2-21	Other (specify):	\$ -	
2-22		\$ -	
2-23		\$ -	
2-24	(add lines 2-1 through 2-23) <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	\$ -	

## PART 3 - EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES

EXPENDITURES: All expenditures for all funds must be reflected in this section, including the purchase of capital assets and principal and interest payments on long-term debt. Financial information will not include fund equity information.

Line#	Description	Round to nearest Dollar	
3-1	Administrative	\$ -	Please use this space to provide any necessary explanations
3-2	Salaries	\$ -	
3-3	Payroll taxes	\$ -	
3-4	Contract services	\$ -	
3-5	Employee benefits	\$ -	
3-6	Insurance	\$ -	
3-7	Accounting and legal fees	\$ -	
3-8	Repair and maintenance	\$ -	
3-9	Supplies	\$ -	
3-10	Utilities and telephone	\$ -	
3-11	Fire/Police	\$ -	
3-12	Streets and highways	\$ -	
3-13	Public health	\$ -	
3-14	Capital outlay	\$ -	
3-15	Utility operations	\$ -	
3-16	Culture and recreation	\$ -	
3-17	Debt service principal (should agree with Part 4)	\$ -	
3-18	Debt service interest	\$ -	
3-19	Repayment of Developer Advance Principal (should agree with line 4-4)	\$ -	
3-20	Repayment of Developer Advance Interest	\$ -	
3-21	Contribution to pension plan (should agree to line 7-2)	\$ -	
3-22	Contribution to Fire & Police Pension Assoc. (should agree to line 7-2)	\$ -	
3-23	Other (specify):	\$ -	
3-24		\$ -	
3-25		\$ -	
3-26	(add lines 3-1 through 3-24) <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES</b>	\$ -	

If TOTAL REVENUE (Line 2-24) or TOTAL EXPENDITURES (Line 3-26) are GREATER than \$100,000 - **STOP**. You may not use this form. Please use the "Application for Exemption from Audit - LONG FORM".

## PART 4 - DEBT OUTSTANDING, ISSUED, AND RETIRED

Please answer the following questions by marking the appropriate boxes.

	Yes	No		
4-1 Does the entity have outstanding debt? If Yes, please attach a copy of the entity's Debt Repayment Schedule.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4-2 Is the debt repayment schedule attached? If no, MUST explain: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4-3 Is the entity current in its debt service payments? If no, MUST explain: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4-4 Please complete the following debt schedule, if applicable: (please only include principal amounts)(enter all amount as positive numbers)	Outstanding at end of prior year*	Issued during year	Retired during year	Outstanding at year-end
General obligation bonds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Revenue bonds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Notes/Loans	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Lease Liabilities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Developer Advances	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other (specify):	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

\*must tie to prior year ending balance

Please answer the following questions by marking the appropriate boxes.

	Yes	No
4-5 Does the entity have any authorized, but unissued, debt? If yes: How much?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date the debt was authorized:	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">11/8/2022</div>	
4-6 Does the entity intend to issue debt within the next calendar year? If yes: How much?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4-7 Does the entity have debt that has been refinanced that it is still responsible for? If yes: What is the amount outstanding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4-8 Does the entity have any lease agreements? If yes: What is being leased? What is the original date of the lease? Number of years of lease? Is the lease subject to annual appropriation? What are the annual lease payments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please use this space to provide any explanations or comments:

## PART 5 - CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Please provide the entity's cash deposit and investment balances.

	Amount	Total
5-1 YEAR-END Total of ALL Checking and Savings Accounts	\$ -	
5-2 Certificates of deposit	\$ -	
<b>Total Cash Deposits</b>		\$ -
Investments (if investment is a mutual fund, please list underlying investments):		
	\$ -	
	\$ -	
	\$ -	
	\$ -	
<b>Total Investments</b>		\$ -
<b>Total Cash and Investments</b>		\$ -

Please answer the following questions by marking in the appropriate boxes

	Yes	No	N/A
5-4 Are the entity's Investments legal in accordance with Section 24-75-601, et. seq., C.R.S.?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5-5 Are the entity's deposits in an eligible (Public Deposit Protection Act) public depository (Section 11-10.5-101, et seq. C.R.S.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If no, MUST use this space to provide any explanations:

## PART 6 - CAPITAL AND RIGHT-TO-USE ASSETS

Please answer the following questions by marking in the appropriate boxes.

- |  | Yes                      | No                                  |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 6-1 Does the entity have capital assets?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6-2 Has the entity performed an annual inventory of capital assets in accordance with Section 29-1-506, C.R.S.? If no, MUST explain: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

N/A

Complete the following capital & right-to-use assets table:	Balance - beginning of the year*	Additions (Must be included in Part 3)	Deletions	Year-End Balance
Land	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Buildings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Machinery and equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Furniture and fixtures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Infrastructure	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Construction In Progress (CIP)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Leased Right-to-Use Assets	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other (explain):	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization (Please enter a negative, or credit, balance)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Please use this space to provide any explanations or comments:

## PART 7 - PENSION INFORMATION

Please answer the following questions by marking in the appropriate boxes.

- |  | Yes                      | No                                  |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 7-1 Does the entity have an "old hire" firefighters' pension plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7-2 Does the entity have a volunteer firefighters' pension plan?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
- If yes: Who administers the plan?

Indicate the contributions from:

Tax (property, SO, sales, etc.):	\$ -
State contribution amount:	\$ -
Other (gifts, donations, etc.):	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
What is the monthly benefit paid for 20 years of service per retiree as of Jan 1?	\$ -

Please use this space to provide any explanations or comments:

## PART 8 - BUDGET INFORMATION

Please answer the following questions by marking in the appropriate boxes.

- |  | Yes                      | No                                  | N/A                      |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 8-1 Did the entity file a budget with the Department of Local Affairs for the current year in accordance with Section 29-1-113 C.R.S.? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <span style="color: red;">See explanation following 10-6</span>  |                          |                                     |                          |
| 8-2 Did the entity pass an appropriations resolution, in accordance with Section 29-1-108 C.R.S.? If no, MUST explain:                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

See explanation following 10-6

If yes: Please indicate the amount budgeted for each fund for the year reported:

Governmental/Proprietary Fund Name	Total Appropriations By Fund

## PART 9 - TAXPAYER'S BILL OF RIGHTS (TABOR)

Please answer the following question by marking in the appropriate box

- |            |   | Yes                                 | No                       |
|------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>9-1</b> | <b>Is the entity in compliance with all the provisions of TABOR [State Constitution, Article X, Section 20(5)]?</b><br><small>Note: An election to exempt the government from the spending limitations of TABOR does not exempt the government from the 3 percent emergency reserve requirement. All governments should determine if they meet this requirement of TABOR.</small> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If no, **MUST** explain:

## PART 10 - GENERAL INFORMATION

Please answer the following questions by marking in the appropriate boxes.

- |             |   | Yes                                 | No                                  |
|-------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>10-1</b> | <b>Is this application for a newly formed governmental entity?</b>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| If yes:     | Date of formation: <input style="width: 400px;" type="text" value="1/3/2023"/>  |                                     |                                     |
| <b>10-2</b> | <b>Has the entity changed its name in the past or current year?</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| If yes:     | Please list the NEW name & PRIOR name:<br><input style="width: 600px;" type="text"/>  |                                     |                                     |
| <b>10-3</b> | <b>Is the entity a metropolitan district?</b>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
|             | Please indicate what services the entity provides:<br><input style="width: 600px;" type="text" value="The District is authorized to finance certain streets, street lighting, traffic and safety controls, sewer"/> |                                     |                                     |
| <b>10-4</b> | <b>Does the entity have an agreement with another government to provide services?</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| If yes:     | List the name of the other governmental entity and the services provided:<br><input style="width: 600px;" type="text"/>   |                                     |                                     |
| <b>10-5</b> | <b>Has the district filed a <i>Title 32, Article 1 Special District Notice of Inactive Status</i> during</b>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| If yes:     | Date Filed: <input style="width: 400px;" type="text" value="The district was inactive 1/27/2023 to 4/5/2023"/>  |                                     |                                     |
| <b>10-6</b> | <b>Does the entity have a certified Mill Levy?</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| If yes:     | Please provide the following <u>mills</u> levied for the year reported (do not report \$ amounts):  |                                     |                                     |

Bond Redemption mills	-
General/Other mills	-
Total mills	-

Please use this space to provide any explanations or comments:

The District's formation election was held on November 8, 2022. The Court order approving the District was signed on January 3, 2023. The District was formed pursuant to CRS 32-1-105 on January 3, 2023. In the organizational meeting held of January 27, 2023, the Board approved a resolution to make the District inactive effective January 27, 2023. Subsequently, the Board met on April 5, 2023 and approved a resolution to return the District to active status effective April 5, 2023. A 2023 budget was approved on April 5, 2023 which included a column for 2022 reflecting no financial activity. The District had no activity financial or otherwise in 2022.

## PART 11 - GOVERNING BODY APPROVAL

Please answer the following question by marking in the appropriate box		YES	NO
12-1	If you plan to submit this form electronically, have you read the new Electronic Signature Policy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Office of the State Auditor — Local Government Division - Exemption Form Electronic Signatures Policy and Procedure

#### Policy - Requirements

The Office of the State Auditor Local Government Audit Division may accept an electronic submission of an application for exemption from audit that includes governing board signatures obtained through a program such as DocuSign or EchoSign. Required elements and safeguards are as follows:

- The preparer of the application is responsible for obtaining board signatures that comply with the requirement in Section 29-1-604 (3), C.R.S., that states the application shall be personally reviewed, approved, and signed by a majority of the members of the governing body.
- The application must be accompanied by the signature history document created by the electronic signature software. The signature history document must show when the document was created and when the document was emailed to the various parties, and include the dates the individual board members signed the document. The signature history must also show the individuals' email addresses and IP address.
- Office of the State Auditor staff will not coordinate obtaining signatures.

**The application for exemption from audit form created by our office includes a section for governing body approval. Local governing boards note their approval and submit the application through one of the following three methods:**

- 1) Submit the application in hard copy via the US Mail including original signatures.
- 2) Submit the application electronically via email and either,
  - a. Include a copy of an adopted resolution that documents formal approval by the Board, **or**
  - b. Include electronic signatures obtained through a software program such as DocuSign or EchoSign in accordance with the requirements noted above.

Print the names of ALL members of current governing body below.		A MAJORITY of the members of the governing body must complete and sign in the column below.
Board Member 1	Print Board Member's Name	I Marvin Davis, attest I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approve this application for exemption from audit. Signed <u>Marvin Davis</u> Date: <u>10/3/2023</u> My term Expires: <u>May 2025</u>
	Marvin Davis	
Board Member 2	Print Board Member's Name	I Leslie Brown, attest I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approve this application for exemption from audit. Signed <u>Leslie Brown</u> Date: <u>10/2/2023</u> My term Expires: <u>May 2025</u>
	Leslie Brown	
Board Member 3	Print Board Member's Name	I Robert Eck II, attest I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approve this application for exemption from audit. Signed <u>Robert L Eck II</u> Date: <u>10/2/2023</u> My term Expires: <u>May 2027</u>
	Robert Eck II	
Board Member 4	Print Board Member's Name	I Don Guerra, attest I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approve this application for exemption from audit. Signed <u>Donald R. Guerra</u> Date: <u>10/2/2023</u> My term Expires: <u>May 2027</u>
	Don Guerra	
Board Member 5	Print Board Member's Name	I Eleanor Righeimer, attest I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approve this application for exemption from audit. Signed <u>Eleanor Righeimer</u> Date: <u>10/2/2023</u> My term Expires: <u>May 2025</u>
	Eleanor Righeimer	
Board Member 6	Print Board Member's Name	I _____, attest I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approve this application for exemption from audit. Signed _____ Date: _____ My term Expires: _____
Board Member 7	Print Board Member's Name	I _____, attest I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approve this application for exemption from audit. Signed _____ Date: _____ My term Expires: _____

# EXAMPLE - DO NOT FILL OUT THIS PAGE

This sample resolution/ordinance for exemption from audit is provided as an example of the documentation that is required. The wording may be used as a basis for your own local government document, if needed; however you MUST draft your own ordinance or resolution making any changes where applicable. Legal counsel should be consulted regarding any questions.

## RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE FOR EXEMPTION FROM AUDIT

(Pursuant to Section 29-1-604, C.R.S.)

A RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE APPROVING AN EXEMPTION FROM AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 20XX FOR THE (name of government), STATE OF COLORADO.

WHEREAS, the (governing body) of (name of government) wishes to claim exemption from the audit requirements of Section 29-1-603, C.R.S.; and

WHEREAS, Section 29-1-604, C.R.S., states that any local government where neither revenues nor expenditures exceed seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars may, with the approval of the State Auditor, be exempt from the provision of Section 29-1-603, C.R.S.; and

[Choose 1 or 2 below, whichever is applicable]

(1) WHEREAS, neither revenue nor expenditures for (name of government) exceeded \$100,000 for Fiscal Year 20XX; and

WHEREAS, an application for exemption from audit for (name of government) has been prepared by (name of individual), a person skilled in governmental accounting, and

OR

(2) WHEREAS, neither revenues nor expenditures for (name of government) exceeded \$750,000 for Fiscal Year 20XX; and

WHEREAS, an application for exemption from audit for (name of government) has been prepared by (name of individual or firm), an independent accountant with knowledge of governmental accounting; and

WHEREAS, said application for exemption from audit has been completed in accordance with regulations, issued by the State Auditor.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved/ordained by the (governing body) of the (name of government) that the application for exemption from audit for (name of government) for the Fiscal Year ended \_\_\_\_\_, 20XX, has been personally reviewed and is hereby approved by a majority of the (governing body) of the (name of government); that those members of the (governing body) have signified their approval by signing below; and that this resolution shall be attached to, and shall become a part of, the application for exemption from audit of the (name of government) for the fiscal year ended \_\_\_\_\_, 20XX.

ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D. 20XX.

EXAMPLE - DO NOT FILL OUT THIS PAGE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor/President/Chairman, etc.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk, Secretary, etc.

Type or Print Names of  
Members of Governing Body

Date  
Term  
Expires

Signature

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

