



City of Bellevue
Utility Tax Relief Program

450 110th Ave NE
P.O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009
Email: UtilityRelief@bellevuewa.gov
Phone: (425) 452-5285

October 1st, 2024

Dear Applicant:

The City of Bellevue's **2024 Utility Tax Relief Program for low-income households** will be processing applications for this year's program from October 1st through November 15, 2024. Remember, even if you have been in the program in the past, you need to re-apply every year. Please note: It can take several weeks to process an application. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications as early as possible to ensure timely processing.

This packet contains two items:

- Program Guidelines – This includes the program description, eligibility information, and details on how to apply for the program.
- Program Application – The application must be completed with vital income and household information, signed, dated and returned with required documentation. **Please note: 2023 income documentation is required.**

There are two ways to apply for the program – by mail or electronically:

- By Mail – You may apply by mail. Please sign and date the application and include copies of all required identification, income, and residency information when returning your paperwork. Incomplete application forms or missing documentation will delay the processing of your application. Please return your paperwork in the return envelope included with this packet.
- Electronically - You may submit your application electronically by emailing UtilityRelief@bellevuewa.gov and requesting access to a secure folder where you may upload your scanned documents. Please do not email your documents.

All required documentation must be received at Downtown Bellevue City Hall before **4:00 PM (PST) on Friday, November 15, 2024**. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted or processed. If you have any questions, please call 425-452-5285.

Sincerely,

Utility Rate & Tax Relief Programs
City of Bellevue Utilities



For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-5285 (voice) or email UtilityRelief@bellevuewa.gov. For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice) or email ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov. If you are deaf or hard of hearing dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.



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GUIDELINES FOR UTILITY TAX RELIEF

NOTE: If you qualified for the 2024 Utility Rate Relief Program earlier this year, you do not need to complete this application.

The purpose of this program is to provide utility occupation tax relief to low-income households within the Bellevue service area. The tax relief will come in the form of a rebate check from utility occupation taxes paid to the City. A check will be mailed to all qualified applicants who apply for the program in a complete and timely manner.

APPLICATION PERIOD

Applications for the 2024 Tax Relief Program will be accepted October 1st through November 15th, 2024. The **deadline for applying is Friday, November 15th, 2024, at 4 p.m., PST**. Completed applications and copies of all required documentation must be received at Downtown Bellevue City Hall before the deadline to be considered. Late or incomplete applications cannot be processed. It can take several weeks to process an application. Applicants are encouraged to get their applications in as early as possible to ensure timely processing.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible, you must have lived inside the Bellevue service area for at least one calendar month in 2024, have contributed to the payment of city utility services, and qualify as low-income. To be considered low-income, your total annual combined household income* for 2023 must not have exceeded the limits shown below.

Household Size in 2023	Total Household Income* for 2023
1 person	\$47,950
2 persons	\$54,800
3 persons	\$61,650
4 persons	\$68,500
5 persons	\$74,000
6 persons	\$79,500

* Income means “disposable income,” as that term is defined in RCW 84.36.383, plus all disability compensation and any and all gifts. Total household income includes income for everyone living in your household during 2023. Examples of income and required documentation are described in the “Required Documentation” section that follows.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Fill out the application, read the “Important Information” statement, and sign and date the application.
2. Collect the required documents from the “Required Documentation” list that follows.
3. Submit the completed application with copies of required documentation before 4 p.m., PST, on Friday, November 15th, 2024. Late or incomplete applications cannot be processed.
 - You may return your application by mail to: City of Bellevue Utilities, P.O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012

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- You may submit your application electronically by emailing UtilityRelief@bellevuewa.gov and requesting access to a secure folder where you may upload your scanned documents. Please DO NOT email your documents.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

In addition to the completed application, please provide the following:

- Proof of 2023 income. Please provide photocopies of completed and signed 2023 Tax Return(s) and other 2023 statements/documentation for EVERY person living with you in 2023 and for ALL income sources that applied to your household during 2023. Some examples of household income include, but are not limited to:
 - Salary/Wages/Tips, etc. (W-2)
 - Interest/Dividends (1099-INT/1099-DIV)
 - Alimony/Spousal Maintenance (State/DSHS stmts.)
 - Business Income, include rental property income and/or rental pymts. co-tenant (1040 + Sch. C)
 - Capital Gains/Losses (1040 + Sch. D)
 - IRA withdrawal (1099-R)
 - Pension/Veteran's/Annuities (1099-R)
 - Railroad Retirement Benefits (RRB-1099)
 - Unemployment/Labor and Indus. (1099-G)
 - Social Security Statement (SSA, SSI, SSDI 1099)
 - Gifts/Cash
 - Work Study Earnings
 - Military pay/benefits
 - Other
- Identification is REQUIRED for all household members in 2023. Valid, government-issued photo identification is required for household members 18 and older. Identification accepted: Driver's License, or WA State ID card, or Passport. For household member under the age of 18, submit a certified birth certificate. Please DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS. We cannot guarantee their safety. Note: Social Security Cards are not accepted for identification purposes.
- Proof of Residency is REQUIRED. Show proof of living within the Bellevue Utility service area in **2024** with a photocopy of any one of the following: most recent City of Bellevue utility bill; or most recent Puget Sound Energy bill with graph page showing your name, address, and usage graph for all of 2024; or 2024 signed lease(s)/rental agreement(s); or have landlord complete the Landlord Form (request copy if needed).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What happens after I apply?

Your application and required documentation will be reviewed for eligibility. You may be contacted by Bellevue Utilities to clarify submitted details or obtain further information. If your application is approved, your rebate check will be processed. Qualified applicants will be sent a rebate check to the address on the application. If your application is denied, you will be notified by mail. **Applicants must promptly notify Bellevue Utilities if there is a change of address.**

2. When will I get my tax rebate check?

The tax rebate check for all approved applicants will be processed and mailed at the end of December 2024.

3. How much will the tax rebate be?

This year's rebate will be determined upon the completion of the Utility Rate Relief Program. The 2023 rebate amount was \$146. If you have resided in the Bellevue service area for only part of 2024, you will receive a prorated rebate.

4. Additional Questions?

If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact our office at 425-452-5285.



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City of Bellevue UTILITY TAX RELIEF APPLICATION 2024

450 110TH Ave NE
P.O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009
P: 425-452-5285 - TTY: dial 711

Email: UtilityRelief@bellevuewa.gov

OFFICE:
Date Rec'd: _____
Date Comp: _____
Signature: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY				
PIN:	INCOME:	F or P:		
CIS CYCLE:		BATCH:		
MONTHS (1-12):		START DATE EXCEPTION:		
		<input type="checkbox"/> TX		
Check:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Incl List	<input type="checkbox"/> Signature	<input type="checkbox"/> Income	<input type="checkbox"/> ID/Age	<input type="checkbox"/> Residency

- Applicant's Legal Name (print): _____

LAST NAME
FIRST NAME
- Birthdate: _____ Last 4 digits of SSN: _____
- Current address of your Primary Residence: _____
- Current mailing address (if different): _____
- Name of apartment/condo complex (if applicable): _____
- Phone (with area code): _____ Email address: _____
- Do you: Own house/condo Rent house/condo/apartment
- Did you qualify for this program in 2023? Yes No
- Have you lived in Bellevue since January 2024? Yes No
 If **No**, when did you move to Bellevue? _____
- Did you contribute to the payment of utility bills from your own resources in 2024? Yes No
- How many people (excluding you) lived in your household in **2023**? _____ Print the names of each person below:

FIRST NAME (Use legal names. No nicknames.)	LAST NAME	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	Relationship to Applicant
A.			
B.			
C.			
D.			
E.			
F.			
G.			

12. Did anyone living in the household in 2023 have income in 2023 from any of the sources below? Check the 'YES' or 'NO' box for each section below and provide documentation* to verify all sources of 2023 income.

Y N

	Salary/Wages/Tips, etc. (W-2)
	Interest & Dividends 1099-INT/1099-DIV
	Alimony/Spousal Maintenance (State/DSHS Stmts.)
	Capital Gains/Losses (1040 + Sch. D)
	Business Income, include rental income and/or rental payments from co-tenant (1040 + Sch. C)
	IRA withdrawal (1099-R)
	Pension/Veteran's Benefits/Annuities (1099-R)
	Railroad Retirement Benefits (RRB-1099)

Y N

	Unemployment/Labor and Industries (1099-G)
	Social Security (SSA, SSI, SSDI, 1099 Stmts.)
	Work Study Earnings (School Stmts.)
	Gifts/Cash – Explain:
	Military pay/benefits
	Other income for 2023:
	Did you/member(s) of household file a 2023 Tax Return? Provide copy of signed 1040 with all attachments.

* If unable to provide income documentation from original source, provide copies of bank statements for all 2023 showing the direct deposits of the income.

APPLICATION CHECK LIST - Provide COPIES (no originals) of the following documents with your application. Application will not be processed without them.

- Identification** – provide valid picture identification for all persons 18 years and older who lived in the household in 2023. Identification accepted: Driver's License, or WA State ID card, or Passport. For those under the age of 18, submit a certified birth certificate.
- Proof of Residency in 2024** any one of the following: Most recent City of Bellevue utility bill; or Most recent Puget Sound Energy bill with graph page showing your name, address, and usage graph for all of 2024; or 2024 signed lease(s)/rental agreement(s); or have landlord complete the Landlord Form (request copy if needed).
- Income Documentation for 2023** – Documentation is needed for EVERY household member living with you in 2023 and for EACH income source that was checked "yes" in Question #12. (See Guidelines under "Required Documentation" for details.)

How to Apply

1. Fill out the application, read the "Important Information" statement and sign and date the application.
2. Collect the required identification, residency, and income documents. Applications submitted without complete documentation cannot be processed.
2. Submit completed and signed application with required documentation to Downtown Bellevue City Hall **by 4:00 p.m., PST, on Friday, November 15th, 2024.** Late or incomplete applications cannot be processed. You may submit your application by:
 - Mail: Return your application by mail to: City of Bellevue Utilities, PO Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012; or
 - Electronically: Submit your application electronically by emailing UtilityRelief@bellevuewa.gov and requesting access to a secure folder where you may upload your scanned documents. Please do not email your documents.


IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING

I, the undersigned, under penalty of perjury of the laws of the state of Washington do hereby declare and certify:

- That I have read and understood all of the 2024 Utility Tax Relief Program Guidelines for Tax Rebate (10/1/2024) provided with this application, and that all of the information provided by me on this application is accurate, complete, and true to the best of my knowledge.
- That I understand that submitting the required documentation does not guarantee eligibility to the program. Such information will, however, be used to determine if I qualify for benefits under the program.
- That I understand that the income documents I provided will be used by the City to create an income worksheet that will be used to determine income qualification.
- That I have read the definition of “disposable income” for the program and to the best of my knowledge, I and my household are eligible for the program.
- That I have provided a true and accurate list of “disposable income” to the City for 2023.
- That I understand the tax rebate is for 2024 only and it is my responsibility to re-apply for this or any other rate relief program during application periods for those programs.
- That I understand that any attempt to falsify my information will result in my disqualification from the program for this year and may subject me to further civil or criminal penalties.
- That I understand the City reserves the right to audit my records to determine my eligibility for the program.
- That I understand that if I receive the tax rebate and do not disclose all sources of disposable income for household members for 2023, the City may recover the actual cost of my tax rebate for the period that I was not eligible.

Applicant Signature* _____ Date: _____

* If signing for an applicant, you MUST provide a copy of the Power of Attorney authorizing you to do so.

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Office Use Only

Approved/Disapproved: _____ Date: _____

Verified: _____ Date: _____

DISC Update - Initial: _____ Verified: _____

Application Denied: Over Income Logged Denied Doesn't Qualify Added to 2025 mailing list Incomplete Paperwork Other: _____