

FACT SHEET 2010



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) State Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program

Overview

The US Department of Energy provides federal stimulus funds for states to provide rebates for ENERGY STAR-qualified appliances. More than 70 percent of the energy used in homes is for appliances, refrigeration, space heating, cooling and water heating. Replacing old appliances and equipment with ENERGY STAR equipment can help American families lower their energy use and reduce their energy bills.

Each state appliance rebate program is unique. Each state has specific energy needs and the flexibility to design a program for its residents.

Implementation

Beginning January 1, 2010, the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) has \$3.6 million of federal stimulus funds to provide low-income Oregon homeowners with a rebate of 70 percent (up to \$2,000) for ENERGY STAR qualified heat pumps and furnaces purchase on or after January 1, 2010.

Effective July 1, 2010, ODOE expanded the low-income homeowner program to include rebates for qualified ENERGY STAR water heaters, refrigerators, dishwashers and clothes washers. Purchase on these appliances must be made on or after July 1, 2010.

The Oregon Department of Energy is partnering with Oregon Housing and Community Services and the Community Action Programs (CAPs) which will provide an additional assistance benefit for those in crisis situations.

Who is eligible for the Appliance Rebate?

Eligible homeowners in Oregon are those earning less than 60 percent of the state's median income levels. You must be the home owner. Following is a table of that income

level depending upon the number of people in the household.

2010 Income Guidelines for Oregon

Size of family unit	Annual income 60% of median	Monthly income 60% of median
1	\$21,093	\$1,757.75
2	\$27,583	\$2,298.58
3	\$34,073	\$2,839.42
4	\$40,563	\$3,380.25
5	\$47,053	\$3,921.08
6	\$53,543	\$4,461.92
7	\$54,760	\$4,563.32
8	\$55,977	\$4,664.73
9	\$57,194	\$4,766.14
10	\$58,411	\$4,867.55
11	\$59,629	\$4,968.95
12	\$60,844	\$5,070.36
each additional member	\$1,217	\$101.42

How do I apply for this appliance rebate program?

There are two ways to apply for the program.

1. Homeowners can contact Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) at 1-800-453-5511 (press 2, then select 4) and go through the initial screening.

If OHCS determines you are eligible, OHCS will send you an application packet and ask for income and homeownership verification. Once the application is received and approved at OHCS, you will be sent a voucher for the appliance. You can then purchase and have your appliance installed and old appliance lawfully recycled. All ENERGY STAR qualified heat pump and furnace purchases must be made on or after January 1, 2010. All ENERGY

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STAR qualified water heater, refrigerator, dishwasher and clothes washer purchases must be made on or after July 1, 2010. You will complete the voucher application and send it to ODOE for approval and payment of the rebate. Please note that you are responsible for all costs up front.

2. If you qualify and can not afford to pay the up-front costs, you should contact your local [Community Action Program](#) (CAP) agency. (This link provides the name of the CAP Agency by county, the phone number and address.) The appliance rebate program is efficiently administered through the existing low-income energy assistance and weatherization program. CAPs will be replacing inefficient or non-functioning heating systems, water heaters and/or refrigerators. If you are approved through your local CAP, all costs will be covered at 100%. You will be asked to sign a release for the rebate funds, but will not need to pay for either the equipment or installation cost.

Why was this program selected and not one that all Oregonians (regardless of income) could access?

Oregon already has a financial incentive program for energy-efficient appliances in the [Residential Energy Tax Credit](#) program. All Oregonians can take advantage of the Residential Energy Tax Credit program.

Low-income homeowners often do not have a tax liability to benefit from the Residential Energy Tax Credit program.

In addition, CAP agencies have had limited funding that is insufficient to meet current needs to replace non-functioning and low-efficiency heating systems, water heaters and refrigerators for low-income homeowners. This program will allow CAPs to replace such systems and Oregonians in need of assistance to save on future energy use and energy costs.

How do contractors become CAP-certified?

Contractors should contact local [CAP agencies](#) to inquire about becoming certified to do work for the CAP.



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