2026 Utility Tax Relief Program

Eligibility

- Must be a **Burien resident**.
- Must have paid Burien utility taxes.
- Must have **income that is at or below 50% of the median income** for the Seattle-Bellevue-Tacoma area as defined by HUD. 2026 income limits are listed in the table below.

Family Size	Annual Income Must NOT exceed	Monthly Income Must NOT exceed
1	$57,550	$4,795
2	$65,800	$5,483
3	$74,000	$6,166
4	$82,200	$6,850
5	$88,800	$7,400
6	$95,400	$7,950
7	$101,950	$8,495
8	$108,550	$9,045

Required Documents

- **Application:** Please fill out the application (*online preferred at burienwa.gov/UtilityTaxRelief*) and submit the required documents detailed below.
- **Proof of income:** For example, federal W-2, federal tax return, Social Security statement, or other income verification for all income earners in household.
- **Proof of City of Burien residence:** For example, a utility bill showing name and address (a Post Office [PO] Box in Burien is not acceptable).
- **Proof of payment to each utility:** We only need your account number or rental agreement (one copy only).

How to Apply

In Person:

Feel free to come to City Hall during business hours and fill out the application at our lobby computer on the 3rd floor. You can also bring in your documents and have us scan them for you.

By Mail:

You can print out a copy of the application and required documents and mail them in or bring them in to City Hall. Please address your application to:

Burien City Hall
Attn: Utility Tax Relief Program
400 SW 152nd Street, Suite 300
Burien, WA 98166

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Types of Relief

- **Direct billing customer**: person who is directly billed for and responsible for payment of utility service charges.
- **Indirect billing customer:** person who is not directly billed for charges, because the payment of these charges is passed to the tenant through a lease/rental agreement.

Electricity and Gas* | maximum amount relief of $25 (for 12 months of Burien residency)

Relief is available for eligible electric and gas customers of Puget Sound Energy (PSE). PSE has agreed to manually adjust bills of eligible direct-billed customers so they do not pay the Burien utility tax in future years. Indirect-billed customers will receive the identified rebate. (Note: This program does *not* include **Seattle City Light** services, for customers of Seattle City Light, you will need to go through their Utility Discount Program for relief.)

Solid Waste (Garbage)* | maximum amount relief of $10 (for 12 months of Burien residency)

Relief is available for eligible garbage customers of Recology CleanScapes. They have agreed to manually adjust bills of eligible direct-billed customers so you do not pay the Burien utility tax in future years. Indirect-billed customers will receive the identified rebate.

***Returning direct-billed electricity/gas and solid waste customers will not be eligible to receive a 2026 rebate due to current provider adjustments.**

Water and Sewer | maximum amount relief of $35 (for 12 months of Burien residency)

Relief is available for eligible water and sewer utility customers.

Telephone or Cellular Phone | max amount relief of $20 (for 12 months of Burien residency)

Relief is available for eligible landline telephone or cellular phone customers for your primary telephone service.

Cable Television | maximum amount relief of $35 (for 12 months of Burien residency)

Relief is available for primary basic cable service.

2026 Rebate Applications are due by December 4, 2026

IF YOU MOVE TO A DIFFERENT BURIEN ADDRESS: If an eligible household who is receiving utility tax relief for electricity and gas services provided by Puget Sound Energy, or garbage services by Recology CleanScapes moves, they must reapply in order to get the billing adjustment at their new address. The Burien utility tax will be reinstated at the old address.

Reimbursement checks will be mailed out by the end of February 2027.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please email Rosecl@burienwa.gov or call (206) 241-4647.

400 SW 152nd St., Suite 300, Burien, WA 98166
Phone (206) 241-4647 • Fax (206) 248-5539 • burienwa.gov