



**TOWN OF EATONVILLE
UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM POLICY**

Background:

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress with overwhelming, bipartisan support and signed into law by the President on March 27, 2020. This economic relief package provides direct economic assistance for American workers, families and small businesses. Through the Coronavirus Relief Fund, the CARES Act provided payments to State, Local and Tribal governments impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak.

On May 20, 2020, the Washington State Department of Commerce notified the Town of Eatonville that they will release a portion of the CARES funds to local governments. The Town of Eatonville's portion of these funds is \$89,000. The Town of Eatonville will utilize these funds to cover unanticipated and unbudgeted COVID related costs for public health and safety, as well as to help individuals, families and businesses overcome economic hardships.

Funding:

The Town Council is allocating \$20,000 from the Town's portion of CARES Act funding to implement a Utility Assistance Program.

Purpose:

To help those citizens of the Town of Eatonville who have been impacted by COVID-19 with all or part of their Town of Eatonville Utility Bills (up to \$300 and not to exceed the current monthly bill amount) in any of the billing periods from June through September 2020.

Qualifications:

- Must be a Town of Eatonville utility customer
- Must be negatively impacted by COVID-19 in one of the following ways:
 - Loss of work
 - Reduction of work hours
 - Loss of Childcare due to COVID-19
 - Illness or family member illness
 - Other impacts as determined (explain in detail on application)

Limit on use of funds:

- The disbursement of funds is to be restricted to payment of utility bills only. The funds cannot be used to pay the following:
 - NSF Fees
 - Reconnect Fees

To Apply:

- Complete the Assistance Program application*
- Attach documentation of household income (a paystub, W2, or other verification)**
- Attach a copy of identification (Driver's License, Passport, etc.). Address on identification must match service address.
- There is no limit on the number of times an account holder may apply, funds will be awarded as they remain available.

Program has been extended to November 13, 2020-per motion at Town Council meeting on October 12, 2020.

*Required for consideration

**Strongly encouraged, however, consideration will not be denied based on failure to produce documentation of household income.

Please note: Funds are credited directly to your Town of Eatonville Utility Bill and will not be issued to customer as a payment.

Limited funds are available and will be awarded on a first come first served basis, determined by completed applications and proper documentation.

Duration:

This program will be in effect for the billing periods beginning June 30, 2020 and will continue through September 30, 2020.