



PRESORT
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PAID
AURORA, IL
PERMIT NO. 2

POSTAL CUSTOMER

ECRWSS

Spring, 2019

Dear Aurora Resident:

Now through **September 1, 2019**, the City of Aurora will issue rebates of municipal electricity and gas use taxes paid by seniors (age 65 as of January 1, 2018) and disabled persons during 2018. The enclosed instruction sheet provides detailed information on the Municipal Electricity and Gas Use Tax Rebate Program. Also, on the reverse side of this letter is a rebate application. Rebate applications and supporting documentation should be filed with the City of Aurora, Finance Department, 44 East Downer Place, Aurora, IL 60507 (City Hall).

If you have questions about the Municipal Electricity and Gas Use Tax Rebate Program, please contact the City of Aurora Finance Department at (630) 256-3510. Finance Department offices are open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

Sincerely,

Martin S. Lyons
Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer

enclosure

CITY OF AURORA
Municipal Electricity and Gas Use Tax Rebate Program
Application Form for Taxes Paid in 2018 (Ending Utility Service Date in December 2018)

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Telephone No: _____

Eligibility

To establish your eligibility for rebates, please answer "yes" or "no" to the following questions:

Did you turn 65 years of age before January 1, 2018? _____
(You must include proof of age if you are applying for the rebate for the first time.)

Were you disabled during the entire 2018 calendar year? _____
(You must include a copy of a current Illinois Disabled Person's Identification Card when you submit this application.)

If you answered "**no**" to both of the above questions - **STOP** - you do not qualify for the rebate by age or disability.

If you answered "yes" to one or both of the above questions, continue with questions A and B:

A. Did you live at your Aurora residence and pay the municipal electricity tax during the entire 2018 calendar year? _____
(Your name must appear on the utility bills submitted with this application.)

B. Did you live at your Aurora residence and pay the municipal gas use tax during the entire 2018 calendar year? _____
(Your name must appear on the utility bills submitted with this application.)

If you answered "**no**" to both questions A & B - **STOP** – you do not qualify.

If you answered "yes" to A and/or B, continue with the application.

Amount of Rebate Requested

If you are requesting the **standard rebate** for either electricity and/or gas - enter **\$25** on the appropriate line and submit copies of your electric and/or gas bill(s) that have an issue date in December 2018 with this application.

If you are requesting an exact amount of the municipal taxes paid, enter the amount on the appropriate line and submit copies of your electric and/or gas bill(s) with an issue date for each month in 2018 with this application.

Municipal Electricity Tax Rebate: \$ _____

Municipal Gas Use Tax Rebate: \$ _____

Total Rebate: \$ _____

Signature of Applicant

Date

Submit your application with proof of age/disability and copies of the appropriate utility bills to:
City of Aurora, Finance Department, 44 East Downer Place, Aurora, IL 60507

Note: Rebate applications must be delivered to the City of Aurora or, if mailed, postmarked no later than **September 1, 2019**.

CITY OF AURORA
Municipal Electricity and Gas Use Tax Rebate Program
Instruction Sheet

General

1. The City of Aurora will rebate amounts paid for the municipal electricity and gas use tax to eligible individuals (as defined below) once each year.
2. Rebates will be based upon municipal tax payments made by eligible individuals during 2018.
3. Eligible individuals must use the application form provided by the city to request rebates of municipal electricity and gas use taxes paid.
4. Only one rebate of municipal electricity and gas use taxes will be issued per residence.
5. The standard rebate amounts are \$25 for municipal electricity tax and \$25 for municipal gas use tax. A rebate of more than \$25 for either tax will be issued only if an eligible individual has paid more than \$25 in municipal electricity and/or gas use taxes and submits copies of the monthly bills with the application.
6. Applications and supporting documentation should be delivered or mailed to:

City of Aurora
Finance Department
44 East Downer Place
Aurora, IL 60507

7. Rebate applications for the 2018 rebate year must be delivered to the city's Finance Department or, if mailed, postmarked by **September 1, 2019**.
8. Depending upon the volume of applications, processing time may be considerable. A rebate check may not be issued until eight weeks or more after the receipt of an application.
9. Questions concerning the municipal electricity and/or gas use tax rebates should be directed to the City of Aurora Finance Department at (630) 256-3510. However, applicants are asked to refrain from calling the Finance Department to check on the status of rebate checks because responding to status inquiries slows the processing of applications

Eligible Individuals

To be eligible for a rebate of the municipal electricity and/or gas use tax paid in 2018, an individual must:

1. Have been a resident of the City of Aurora during the entire 2018 calendar year.
2. Have been 65 years of age or more **OR** disabled during the entire 2018 calendar year.
3. Have been the individual listed on the electric and/or gas bill(s) for his/her residence, and paid the municipal electricity and/or gas use tax during the entire 2018 calendar year.

Required Supporting Documentation

The following documentation must accompany a rebate application:

- 1) Proof of age. Acceptable documentation for proof of age includes a copy of a birth certificate, a driver's license, or a state identification card. If the eligible individual qualified for a utility tax rebate by being 65 years old or more in a prior rebate year, submission of proof of age for the current rebate year is not necessary.
- 2) Proof of disability. Only a copy of the **Illinois Disabled Person's Identification Card** will be accepted as proof of disability.
- 3) If the standard \$25 rebate amounts are requested, a copy of the electric bill and/or natural gas utility bill for the residence with an ending service date of December 2018 must accompany the application. The name of the individual applying for the rebate must appear on the utility bills. Also, the bills must include **all pages** specifically those that reflect that the municipal electricity and natural gas use taxes were actually assessed and paid.
- 4) If rebates of more than the standard amounts are requested, copies of the electric and/or natural gas bills for each of month of 2018 must accompany the application. The name of the individual applying for the rebate must appear on the utility bills.

Special Instructions

1. If an eligible individual paid for utilities through rent payments, the individual may obtain the rebates of the standard amounts if he submits a copy of his rental agreement or a letter from the management office (on the management office's letterhead) with the application. The rental agreement or letter must a) indicate that the individual was the renter of the premises concerned during the entire 2018 calendar year, **and** b) identify the utilities (electricity and/or natural gas) that were included in the rent payments.
2. If an eligible individual paid for utilities through assessments paid to a homeowners or similar association, the individual may obtain rebates of the standard amounts if he submits a signed letter from the association (on the association's letterhead) with the rebate application. The letter must a) state that the individual was the owner of the residential premises concerned during the entire 2018 calendar year **and** b) identify the utilities (electricity and/or natural gas) that were included in the assessments paid by the individual to the association.
3. In some circumstances, an eligible individual may have paid for one utility directly to the utility company and the other utility through rent payments or association assessments. In such circumstances, appropriate documentation must be submitted with the rebate application to reflect this. For example: if an eligible individual paid for electricity directly but paid for natural gas through rent payment, he or she would submit a copy of the December 2018 electric bill and a copy of his/her rental agreement reflecting that charges for gas were included in the rent payments.