

# Original and Renewal Application for Utility Users Tax Exemption and Cox Cable Discount



Finance Department  
735 Anacapa St  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
805-564-5342

# Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

## ***What is this application for?***

The Application for Utility Users Tax Exemption and Cox Cable Discount are really two applications in one. By telling us about yourself and answering three simple questions we can determine your eligibility for one or both programs. If you are approved you will receive assistance by having the utility user's taxes removed from your utility bills and/or receive a discount on your Cox Cable bill.

## ***How much is the discount?***

If you are approved for the Utility User's Tax Exemption the City will report your exemption status to the utility companies who will then remove the applicable taxes from your bill(s). This savings can be up to 6% of each utility bill approved. If you are approved for the Cox Cable discount the amount of the discount will be equal to 40% of the Basic Cable service rate. It is possible to receive both the tax exemption and cable discount savings at the same time.

## ***I am already on these programs. Why are you sending me another application?***

The savings afforded by these programs are only valid between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014 and **must be renewed every year**. If you are currently enrolled in one or both programs and you do not return a completed application you will be removed from both programs and no longer receive the discount(s).

If your completed renewal application is not received by June 30<sup>th</sup>, and you are later approved, your benefits **will not** be back-dated.

## ***Is there an income requirement?***

Yes. If you live alone, your 2013 Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) last (calendar) year must have been no greater than \$16,130.00.

If there are two or more people in your household, all members of that household's income must be listed together, and the total AGI may not be greater than \$24,180.00.

When necessary, you may be asked to demonstrate proof of income.

## ***What is Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)?***

Your AGI is calculated pursuant to the rules and regulations of the State of California Franchise Tax Board. You can find your AGI on your California State Tax return Form 540EZ, line 16, or on line 17 of Forms 540 and 540A.

If you need help calculating your AGI please contact the California Franchise Tax Board, the IRS, or a private tax professional. The City cannot help you determine your AGI.

Reporting your AGI or exempt status is required for your application to be processed.

## ***May I receive the discount from these programs in addition to others?***

The Cox Cable Discount and Utility Users Tax Exemption programs are administered by the City of Santa Barbara and are independent of any other programs offered by the utility companies or any other government agency.

Being enrolled in other programs which assist you in paying your utilities will not exclude you from receiving the discounts afforded by these programs. Approval for the City's programs is based solely on income, age, and/or disability status.



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

FINANCE DEPARTMENT  
735 ANACAPA ST  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101  
805-564-5342

## ORIGINAL AND RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR UTILITY USERS TAX EXEMPTION AND COX CABLE DISCOUNT

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

FIRST NAME	MI	LAST NAME	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)	
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
STREET ADDRESS			APT/UNIT/BLDG
<input type="text"/>			<input type="text"/>
CITY	STATE	ZIP	PHONE NUMBER
SANTA BARBARA	CA	<input type="text"/>	805- <input type="text"/>

### SPOUSE INFORMATION (IF LIVING WITH APPLICANT)

SPOUSE FIRST NAME (IF LIVING WITH APPLICANT)	MI	SPOUSE LAST NAME (IF LIVING WITH APPLICANT)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

### MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)

STREET ADDRESS (PO BOX)		APT/UNIT/BLDG
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
CITY	STATE	ZIP
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

### INCOME QUESTIONNAIRE

ENTER THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD: .....

ENTER THE TOTAL 2012 ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME FOR ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD: \$  ,  .00  
IF ALL PERSONS IN YOUR HOUSE WERE EXEMPT FROM PAYING TAXES IN 2012, WRITE "EXEMPT" IN THE BLOCKS ABOVE.

### ANSWER THIS QUESTION **\*\*ONLY\*\*** IF APPLYING FOR THE COX DISCOUNT

IF YOU ARE PERMANENTLY DISABLED AND RECEIVING DISABILITY BENEFITS CHECK THIS BOX: .....

IF YOU CHECKED THIS BOX AND YOU ARE LESS THAN 65 YEARS OLD YOU MUST INCLUDE PROOF OF DISABILITY.

### UTILITY ACCOUNT INFORMATION

ENTER THE ACCOUNT NUMBERS OF THE UTILITIES FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING FOR THE UUT EXEMPTION. IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBERS CONTACT YOUR UTILITY PROVIDER. THE ACCOUNTS LISTED MUST BE IN THE APPLICANT'S NAME. INCLUDE COPIES OF YOUR MOST RECENT UTILITY BILLS WITH THIS APPLICATION.

EDISON  
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COX CABLE, TV ONLY  
001-3011-

SO CAL GAS  
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CITY OF SANTA BARBARA (WATER, SEWER, AND TRASH)  
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**NOTE:**

- ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME IS DETERMINED BY THE CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE TAX BOARD TAKEN FROM YOUR 2012 CALIFORNIA INCOME TAX RETURN. IF YOU DID NOT NEED TO FILE A CALIFORNIA TAX RETURN YOU MAY ENTER "EXEMPT" IN THE INCOME BLOCKS.
- THE UTILITY USER'S TAX EXEMPTION AND/OR CABLE DISCOUNT, WILL TERMINATE IF THERE IS A CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR DEATH OF THE APPLICANT.
- A NEW APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED IF YOU MOVE TO A NEW ADDRESS.
- A RENEWAL APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED EVERY YEAR FOR BENEFITS TO CONTINUE. IF A RENEWAL APPLICATION IS NOT RECEIVED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY YOUR BENEFITS WILL EXPIRE.
- THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REQUIRE DOCUMENTATION OF ANY INFORMATION PROVIDED BEFORE OR AFTER THIS APPLICATION IS APPROVED.
- OTHER MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD MAY ALSO BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE INCOME INFORMATION BEFORE OR AFTER THIS APPLICATION IS APPROVED.



- ✓ DID YOU INCLUDE COPIES OF YOUR MOST RECENT UTILITY BILLS FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING FOR RELIEF? IF COPIES OF YOUR BILLS ARE NOT SUBMITTED WITH THIS APPLICATION YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY CREDITS FROM THESE UTILITIES.
- ✓ IF YOU ARE APPLYING FOR THE COX DISCOUNT, AND YOU INDICATED THAT YOU ARE PERMANENTLY DISABLED, AND ARE LESS THAN 65 YEARS OLD, YOU MUST INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR DISABILITY AWARD LETTER WITH THIS APPLICATION. THE AWARD LETTER MUST INDICATE THE NAME OF RECIPIENT. IF YOU ARE NOT DISABLED YOU DO NOT NEED TO SUBMIT AN AWARD LETTER.
- ✓ DID YOU FILL OUT THIS APPLICATION COMPLETELY? IF SO, PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN AND DATE BELOW.

**SIGNATURE**

I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE INFORMATION HEREIN IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

/  
DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)

**MAILING AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

RETURN THIS APPLICATION FORM AND ANY REQUIRED DOCUMENTS BY MAIL TO:

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
ATTN: BILLING DEPARTMENT  
PO BOX 1990  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93102-1990

OR YOU MAY RETURN THIS APPLICATION IN PERSON AT CITY HALL IN DE LA GUERRA PLAZA:

SANTA BARBARA CITY HALL  
CASHIER'S OFFICE  
735 ANACAPA ST  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE FILLING OUT THIS APPLICATION OR HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROGRAM: 805-564-5342  
FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFELINE TELEPHONE DISCOUNTS, CONTACT VERIZON: 1-800-794-4741

THIS APPLICATION IS ONLY VALID FOR RESIDENTS WHO LIVE INSIDE THE CITY LIMITS OF SANTA BARBARA. IF YOU LIVE OUTSIDE THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA LIMITS DO NOT FILL OUT THIS FORM. INSTEAD, CONTACT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- CITY OF CARPINTERIA RESIDENTS MAY CONTACT THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE AT 805-684-5405 x 416
- CITY OF GOLETA RESIDENTS MAY CONTACT THE CITY OF GOLETA AT 805-961-7500
- UNINCORPORATED AND ALL OTHER RESIDENTS MAY CONTACT THE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE AT 805-568-2933.