

# COWLITZ PUD

## Low-Income Disabled Discount Rate (DDR) Program Guidelines

A discounted electric rate is available for Cowlitz PUD customers who qualify for special parking privileges, are blind, disabled, handicapped or an incapacitated person as defined under the Revised Code of the State of Washington (RCW) **AND** receive a disability income, and meet all eligibility guidelines noted below.

**To qualify for the Low-Income Disabled Discount Rate:**

1. The applicant must occupy the subject premise and must have lived at the residence for the past 12 consecutive months and be legally responsible for payment of the PUD account.
2. The applicant must earn a disability income and provide documentation that they:
  - Qualify for special parking privileges under RCW 46.16.381(1) (a through i) or are a blind person as defined in RCW 74.18.020(4), or
  - Earn an SSDI income, or
  - Provide a physician's certification that they are disabled, handicapped, or an incapacitated person as defined under RCW 71A.10.020-(3) or other similar state or federal guidelines.
3. The applicant must apply for the discounted rate and provide proof of residency and income as determined by the District. No customer is eligible for more than one PUD low-income rate discount program.
4. Annual gross household income will be determined based on a review of all related financial records. The gross household income will determine the level of the rate discount as shown in the chart below:

Persons in HH	25% DISCOUNT Gross HH income	15% DISCOUNT Gross HH income	5% DISCOUNT Gross HH income
1-2	Up to \$14,570	\$14,570 - \$21,855	\$21,855 - \$25,500
3	Up to \$18,310	\$18,310 - \$27,465	\$27,465 - \$32,045
4	Up to \$22,050	\$22,050 - \$33,075	\$33,075 - \$38,590
5+	Up to \$25,790	\$25,790 - \$38,685	\$38,685 - \$45,130

*Based on adjusted 2009 HHS poverty guidelines as published in the Federal Register, Vol. 73, No. 15, January 23, 2009, pp. 3971-3972*

5. The discounted rate must be reapplied for on an annual basis during a time period set by the District.
6. The discounted rate applies only to the qualified customer's primary residence and is not available for seasonal or other secondary residences.

**To apply:**

1. The applicant must contact CAP and request an appointment to review their gross household earnings for the past 12 months. A CAP representative will inform them of all documentation required for the appointment.
2. Prior to the CAP appointment, the applicant must come to Cowlitz PUD and ask for information related to their history as a PUD customer. Photo ID is required. The PUD information must be taken to the CAP appointment.
3. If it is not possible for the applicant to come to the PUD due to the disability, they may send a family member or a friend as their representative. The designee must have photo ID and a signed note from the applicant requesting the required information.
4. After the appointment at CAP, a CAP representative will inform the applicant whether or not they qualify for the reduced electric rate for the coming year. The discounted rates under the 2009-2010 DDR program go into effect after October 10, 2009.