

# What is the Lifeline Utility Rate Relief Program?

The City of Black Diamond offers utility rate reductions of up to 50% for water, sewer and stormwater charges for qualifying residents.

## Do I qualify?

- Applicants must be the head of household at the qualifying residence, **and**
- Applicants must be a Black Diamond resident and responsible for paying water, sewer and/or stormwater services from the City of Black Diamond, **and**
- Applicant must be low- income and at least 62 years of age or older, or low-income and permanently and totally disabled, **and**
- Total household income shall not exceed the limits as set annually by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (income limit table inside)
- Or, if a low-income household includes a home kidney dialysis patient, a water only rate discount is available.



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TO:

City of Black Diamond

# 2016 – 2017 Application

You may qualify  
for discounted  
utility rates!

Lifeline  
Utility Rate  
Relief  
Program

Updated April 2016

# Lifeline Program

The Black Diamond City Council is offering up to a 50% discount for qualified low-income seniors and low-income disabled residents. To qualify you must be the head of household, low income and be at least 62 years of age, or permanently disabled, or have a household member on kidney dialysis at home. The discount will apply to water; city share of sewer and stormwater rates (does not apply to King County Metro Sewer). The kidney dialysis discount applies only to the water rates. Annual applications are required by May 31<sup>st</sup> each year. Eligible incomes are updated periodically by the Federal Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) and include total household income. Eligible incomes are based on household size. If an applicant is a senior, low income and disabled, only one discount will apply. For the actual discount rate, check on the City of Black Diamond's website or call the number below.

## Official HUD Guidelines March 2016

Household Size	Maximum Annual Gross Income
1	48,550
2	55,450
3	62,400
4	69,300
5	74,850
6	80,400
7	85,950
8	91,500

Citizens who wish to apply for the Lifeline discount program should complete the application in this brochure, attach the appropriate documentation and return the form in person, fax or by mail to the Finance Office at Black Diamond City Hall.

**For those that are already on the program, a new application is needed each year by the May 31<sup>st</sup> due date. Documentation includes a copy of a driver's license or birth certificate for proof of age; a copy of the most recent tax return, social security annual statement, or annual retirement statement for proof of income; a copy of disability payments from SSI (Supplemental Security Income) or SSDA (Social Security Disability Act income) and a signed and dated copy of a physician's statement of permanent disability for disability requests (with contact info) and for kidney dialysis patients.**

**All documentation is subject to City of Black Diamond verification. Insufficient documentation is an automatic disqualification.**

Annual gross income is the income of yourself, your spouse, and that of any other tenants living in the home. Some examples of annual gross income include:

- Wages, salaries, and tips
- Interest and dividends
- IRA (individual retirement account) withdrawals
- Gross Social Security benefits (before deductions)
- Business income
- Pension and annuity receipts
- Governmental assistance

If I have additional questions  
whom should I call?  
Black Diamond Utility Billing  
360- 886-5700

# 2016-2017 City of Black Diamond Lifeline Program Annual Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Account number: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- Owner                       Renter  
 Disabled                       Kidney dialysis

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people living at this address: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual gross income \_\_\_\_\_

**I certify, subject to full penalties of perjury, that:**  
*I am the head of household receiving utility services from the City of Black Diamond and my household income does not exceed the maximum HUD criteria for the current year.  
The number of people living at my household is accurate and I am providing copies of original documentation confirming all sources of my household's income, age and/or disability.*

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated** \_\_\_\_\_  
This application is strictly confidential and will not be released.  
Due date is **May 31<sup>st</sup>** each year to enroll in the Lifeline program.

## For City Use Only

Verified: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Income: \_\_\_\_\_

VIS:  Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please be sure to attach copies of qualifying documentation to this application.**