

Sec. 36-62. Special and general purposes.

The W.A.T.E.R. Fund shall be administered and managed for the purpose of assisting certain elderly residents whose incomes meet the below specified criteria, persons with disability, and certain other residents for payment of city water and sanitary sewer bills (excluding deposits, fees, tap, meter and related service installation charges) in accordance with the administrative procedures set forth in chapter 46 of this Code. Eighty percent of the funds shall be available for assisting the elderly on fixed incomes, five percent shall be available for assisting persons with disability, and the remaining 15 percent shall be available for assisting certain other residents meeting the criteria set forth below. (In the event one or more of these classes do not exhaust their percentage allowance within a six-month period, excess funds available may be assigned to the remaining class or classes.) Recipients of the assistance must be single-family residential customers as defined in section 47-61 of this Code who meet the qualifications set forth in this section below. Once a recipient has received benefits from the W.A.T.E.R. Fund in the sum of \$100 the recipient shall not be entitled to any further benefits there from until a period of six months has expired. The city shall give assistance under this program based on the date of initial application in the order that the applications are actually received at the processing locations designated by the city.

The city shall determine whether an applicant qualifies for assistance based on the criteria specified below. City water and sewer service must be provided in the name of the applicant who must reside at the property. All residents of the household must be listed on the application along with their income.

(1) Elderly residents. Elderly residents otherwise eligible under this section may qualify for assistance if:

a. They are at least sixty years old.

b. Their monthly household income, when adjusted by subtracting all medical bills for the month not reimbursed by insurance or Medicaid, is less than or equal to the current year's poverty guidelines applicable to their size of family unit as promulgated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or its successor agency.

(2) Person with disability. Person with disability shall mean a person:

a. Who has a presently existing, medically determined physical or mental impairment of a chronic or permanent character that substantially limits one or more of his or her major life activities; or

b. Whose monthly household income, when adjusted by subtracting all medical bills for the month not reimbursed by insurance or Medicaid, is less than or equal to the current year's poverty guidelines applicable to their size of family unit as promulgated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or its successor agency.

(3) Low income residents. Other residents who are otherwise ineligible under this section may qualify for assistance if their monthly household income is less than or equal to 100 percent of the current poverty income guideline amount applicable to their size of family unit as promulgated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Preference shall be given to those who have met the guidelines for at least three months or more.

(4) Ineligibles. Any resident who is an active city employee or whose household includes a city employee shall not be eligible for assistance from the W.A.T.E.R. Fund."

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