

**BINGEN MUNICIPAL CODE**

**Article III. Water and Sewer Service**

**Chapter 13.50**

**UTILITY RATE DISCOUNT FOR LOW-INCOME SENIORS OR LOW-INCOME DISABLED PERSONS**

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**13.50.010 Policy for discounts established.**

An ordinance for discounts to the billings for water and sewer utility services for certain low-income senior or low-income disabled citizens is adopted in order to provide necessary support for such individuals. Such reductions are intended to offset rate increases. (Ord. 520 §1, 2005)

**13.50.020 Low-income senior citizen qualifications.**

To qualify for the discount provided for in BMC 13.50, a low-income senior citizen shall show satisfactory proof that he or she:

- A. Is 65 years of age or older; and
- B. Has a maximum annual household income at or below 125 percent of federal poverty guidelines; and
- C. Is a single occupant or the head of a household or the spouse of the head of the household; and
- D. Resides in the dwelling unit serviced by the water and sewer utility; and
- E. Is billed or is the spouse of a person billed by the water and sewer utility.

Applicants shall verify such information to the satisfaction of the city, and shall provide such other data as is deemed appropriate upon forms prepared, and in the manner determined, by the city. (Ord. 520 §1, 2005)

**13.50.030 Low-income disabled citizen qualifications.**

To qualify for the discount provided for in BMC 13.50, a disabled citizen shall show satisfactory proof that he or she:

- A. Is disabled; and
- B. Has a maximum annual household income at or below 125 percent of federal poverty guidelines; and
- C. Is a single occupant or the head of a household or the spouse of the head of the household; and
- D. Resides in the dwelling unit served by the water and sewer utility; and
- E. Is billed or is the spouse of a person billed by the water and sewer utility.

Applicants shall verify such information to the satisfaction of the city, and shall provide such other data as is deemed appropriate upon forms prepared, and in the manner determined, by the city. (Ord. 520 §1, 2005)

**13.50.040 Discount applies to water and sewer utility services.**

Persons qualified by the city as eligible recipients of a low-income senior or low-income disabled citizen discount provided for in this chapter shall be granted a discount against the base charges assessed for water and sewer utility services under Chapter 13.040.120, Service Classifications and Charges Designated for Water Service and Chapter 13.24.030, Monthly Sewer Rates. (Ord. 520 §1, 2005)

**13.50.050 Discount Rate.**

The city clerk-treasurer is authorized to discount the base rate for water and sewer utility services to qualified low-income seniors or low-income disabled citizens by twenty (20) percent; provided, however, that there shall not be more than one such discount per household. (Ord. 520 §1, 2005)

**13.50.060 Definition of disabled persons.**

For purposes of this chapter, the following persons are defined as disabled:

- A. A person who has qualified and received special parking privileges under RCW 46.16.381(1)(a) through 46.16.381(1)(g).
- B. A blind person as defined in RCW 74.18.020(4).
- C. A person who has a developmental disability as defined in RCW 71A.10.020(3).

- D. A person who is gravely disabled as a result of a mental disorder as defined in RCW 71.050.020(14).
- E. A person who has qualified and receives supplemental social security benefits due to disability. (Ord. 520 §1, 2005)

**13.50.070 Application Process.**

- A. Initial applications shall be made using the Washington State LILHEAP “Household Information Form”.
- B. Applications shall be submitted to Washington Gorge Action Programs or the City of Bingen.
- C. Washington Gorge Action Programs will review and screen those applications as to eligibility. Washington Gorge Action Programs will submit a list of names and addresses to the City of Bingen of those who appear to qualify for a low-income senior or low-income disabled person’s discount. (Ord. 520 §1, 2005)