

Window Air Conditioner Exchange Partnership Policies

Columbia Water & Light partners with the Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA) or the Voluntary Action Center (VAC) to provide low income residents with new, high efficiency window air conditioning units. Customers who cannot afford to buy an efficient cooling unit are offered a trade for their window air conditioner – reducing the consumer costs. The utility also reduces peak demand on hot summer days which lowers operating costs.

- The AC units are purchased by competitive bid process.
- The typical existing window A/C has an Energy Efficiency Rating (EER) of 6.0. The replacement Energy Star window units have an EER of 10.7.
- Customers on average will save approximately 840 kWh per summer depending on their usage. The cost payback is less than three years.

CMCA and VAC's mission is to help low income people become more self reliant through fixing the root of their problems. CMCA and VAC provides financial counseling and budget management training. CMCA and VAC are good partners to assist Columbia Water & Light to aide low income senior citizens, individuals with disabilities and/or customers with small children that use inefficient window air conditioners.

- The utility has furthered this relationship and aided in reducing utility bills for this target group by requiring participation in CMCA' or VACs weatherization program during the fall. The weatherization program provides customers with an energy efficiency evaluation and a crew to complete the needed efficiency projects free of charge. The weatherization service offered by CMCA or VAC is dependent on funding of this program.

All customers are screened by CMCA or VAC for income eligibility requirements.

Boone Electric Cooperative partners on this program to provide window air conditioners to their customers served by CMCA or VAC.

CMCA or VAC will provide new energy efficient window air conditioner units to low-income individuals that are Columbia Water & Light electric customers or Boone Electric Cooperative customers. Eligible recipients must exchange an older window AC unit to qualify and must meet income qualifications of 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Columbia Water & Light will obtain and properly dispose of the older window air conditioning units.

CMCA or VAC will be verifying income for AC exchange participants. CMCA or VAC will be requiring proof of income for every household member 18 and older for the previous 3 months in order to qualify. Interested participants will not qualify if their household is above the income guidelines, or is unable to provide documentation to verify income.

Income Guidelines

2017 Federal Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States

VAC's income limits are 200% of the Poverty Guidelines or lower

Household Size	Annual Gross Income Limit	Monthly Gross Income Limit
1	\$24,120	\$2,010
2	\$32,480	\$2,707
3	\$40,840	\$3,403
4	\$49,200	\$4,100
5	\$57,560	\$4,797
6	\$65,920	\$5,493
7	\$74,280	\$6,190
8	\$82,640	\$6,887
Add for each additional person	\$8,360	\$697

Documentation of Income

Income is defined as:

1. Money, wages and salaries before any deductions.
2. Net receipts from non-farm or farm self-employment
3. Regular payments from social security, railroad retirement, unemployment compensation, strike benefits from union funds, worker's compensation, veteran's payments, training stipends, alimony, and military family allotments
4. Private pensions, government employee pensions (including military retirement pay), and regular insurance or annuity payments
5. Dividends and/or interest
6. Net rental income and net royalties
7. Periodic receipts from estates or trusts
8. Net gambling or lottery winnings

Application Process

Interested Columbia Water & Light electric customers and Boone Electric Cooperative customers can exchange their older AC window unit for a new energy efficient window at the CMCA's Weatherization office, 610 Vandiver Columbia, MO 65202 or VAC's office located at Vandiver Dr.

This information taken from Columbia Ordinance - Chapter 27, Section 27-165