



OPPORTUNITIES
for Williamson & Burnet Counties
Paths to Independence

Energy Cost Assistance AND Case Management Intake Application

Directions for submitting an Application in 4 Steps

Step One:

- A. Print out the printable application form
OR
- B. Download electronic application form to your device.
 - 1. Save and Close blank electronic form to your device.
 - 2. Open the blank form using an Adobe Reader type application on your device or computer. *****Please do not complete the form in a web browser window.**

Step Two:

- A. Complete the application form pages (1 – 5). *****Read carefully and respond to ALL sections.**
- B. Complete the Signature on the Authorization page (page 5)
 - 1. Sign the Printed Version
OR
 - 2. Complete and Save the E-Signature on the Electronic Form
- C. Gather the required documents – *****See page 1 on application for specific details...**
 - 1. ALL forms of income from ALL members of the household *within the LAST 30 DAYS*.
 - 2. Clear copy of a picture ID from the applicant.
 - 3. Current Energy Bill with a balance owed.
- D. Complete the vendor release forms that follows ONLY if you have one of these specific vendors. The signer on these forms MUST be an authorized user on the account.
 - 1. MAACLink Release– For Atmos Energy Customers Only
 - 2. Reliant Energy Release – For Reliant Energy Customers Only
 - 3. Austin Energy Release – For City of Austin Energy Customers Only

Step Three:

- A. Page 6 is voluntary. This is for individuals and families whom are looking to increase their education or job skills and by increasing their income level and quality of life. This is a separate program called CSBG Case Management services. If you complete this page, a case manager will contact you regarding our CSBG program. *****This page will not affect your application status in regards to your energy assistance qualification.**
- B. Complete and sign Page 7 ONLY if you or individuals within the household, 18 years and over, are not receiving ANY income. This means the listed individual(s) are not employed, receiving cash benefits or contributing to the household income.





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Step Three Continued

- C. Complete and obtain signature for Page 8 ONLY if you or an individual(s) within the household, 18 years and over, AND are disabled AND NOT receiving cash benefits. *****Read the page for qualifications of disability.** The Self-Identifying individual or guardian will need to sign and date this form. One form for each household member.

Step Four:

- A. Submit completed forms and required documents to OWBC by **ONE** of the following:
1. Attach and Email to Utilities@opportunitiesforwbc.org
 2. Print and Fax to 512-763-1411
 3. Mail to OWBC, 604 High Tech Drive, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 4. Walk In application to the Community Services office in Georgetown – 604 High Tech Drive, 78626

Notice:

***Once the application is received, it will be reviewed for needed information for processing. Once it is determined that all information is available for processing, it will be placed in line to be qualified. This time period is fluid and could take up to 90 days during heavy demand times. Please feel free to call 512-255-2202 with any questions concerning your application.



Administrative Office: 604 High Tech Drive * Georgetown, Texas 78626
(512) 763-1400 * Fax: (512) 763-1411 * www.wbco.net





OPPORTUNITIES
for Williamson & Burnet Counties

2018 Intake Application

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	
Physical Address (include Apt/Suite)	City	TX State	Zip Code
<input type="checkbox"/> Mailing Address is Same as Physical Address		Mailing Address (Address, City, Zip)	
Phone #1	Phone #2	Email	

How did you hear about us? Website Friend Social Service Agency _____ Other _____

REQUIRED SUPPORT DOCUMENTS (Absence of any support documents will cause a delay in processing or denial)

- ___ All proof of income for the **last 30 days** for all household members 18 and over (2018 Social Security/VA Income Verification Letters, check stubs, TANF letter, unemployment benefit, letter from employer)
- ___ Complete Application (pages 1-5) and Review CSBG Case Management Program (page 6)
- ___ Complete the Declaration of No Income Statement **ONLY** for any household member 18 and over **not receiving any income** (Page 7)
- ___ Complete the Self-Identification of Disability form for **each household member** that is disabled and **not receiving Social Security benefits – form to be signed by person claiming disability** (Page 8)
- ___ Complete the Vendor Release of Information **ONLY** if you have Atmos Energy, Reliant Energy, or Austin Energy (included in packet)
- ___ Attach a **CLEAR** copy of Applicant’s Photo ID (example: Driver’s License, Identification Card, Student ID)
- ___ Attach a Current electric and/or gas bills that has a balance owed
- ___ Attach a Disconnection Notice if you have received one

PLEASE REMEMBER: Please allow up to 90 days from receipt of application for processing.

Applications are processed in the order it is received and by priority rating scale. Until your application is processed, you will be responsible for your utility bills and any late fees that occur. Incomplete applications are unable to be processed until fully completed. Once application is processed, you will be notified via mail or email. All assistance is subject to availability of funds.

Service Area: Williamson and Burnet Counties

You may send your completed application and required documents to: utilities@opportunitiesforwbc.org

604 High Tech Drive, Georgetown, TX 78626 ☎ (512) 255-2202 ☎ (512)763-1411 (Fax)

www.opportunitiesforwbc.org



HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS INFORMATION

Please print all household members including applicant, **incomplete applications are unable to be processed.**

Names of Members in Household <small>Head of Household ✓</small>	Gender M / F	Date of Birth	Relationship to Applicant	Race Circle One	Hispanic Y or N	Educ. Grade Level Circle One	Insurance Name or None	Disabled Y or N	Emp. Status Circle All That Apply	VET Y or N	English proficiency Circle One	Bilingual Y or N	Other Language If Bilingual
1			Applicant	Am. Indian Asian Black Hawaiian/PI White Multi-Racial		0-8 th 9-12 th HS Grad/GED College Associates Bachelors+			FT PT Training School Seasonal Unemployed Retired		None Little Moderate Proficient		
2				Am. Indian Asian Black Hawaiian/PI White Multi-Racial		0-8 th 9-12 th HS Grad/GED College Associates Bachelors+			FT PT Training School Seasonal Unemployed Retired		None Little Moderate Proficient		
3				Am. Indian Asian Black Hawaiian/PI White Multi-Racial		0-8 th 9-12 th HS Grad/GED College Associates Bachelors+			FT PT Training School Seasonal Unemployed Retired		None Little Moderate Proficient		
4				Am. Indian Asian Black Hawaiian/PI White Multi-Racial		0-8 th 9-12 th HS Grad/GED College Associates Bachelors+			FT PT Training School Seasonal Unemployed Retired		None Little Moderate Proficient		
5				Am. Indian Asian Black Hawaiian/PI White Multi-Racial		0-8 th 9-12 th HS Grad/GED College Associates Bachelors+			FT PT Training School Seasonal Unemployed Retired		None Little Moderate Proficient		
6				Am. Indian Asian Black Hawaiian/PI White Multi-Racial		0-8 th 9-12 th HS Grad/GED College Associates Bachelors+			FT PT Training School Seasonal Unemployed Retired		None Little Moderate Proficient		
7				Am. Indian Asian Black Hawaiian/PI White Multi-Racial		0-8 th 9-12 th HS Grad/GED College Associates Bachelors+			FT PT Training School Seasonal Unemployed Retired		None Little Moderate Proficient		
8				Am. Indian Asian Black Hawaiian/PI White Multi-Racial		0-8 th 9-12 th HS Grad/GED College Associates Bachelors+			FT PT Training School Seasonal Unemployed Retired		None Little Moderate Proficient		

Please attach an additional sheet if more than 8 household members.

Total Number in Household _____

HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS			
Please mark (✓) for yes			
Household Type		Other Characteristics – mark all that apply	
Circle One: Own Rent Homeless Other		Primary Language Spoken in Home _____	
Mark one choice below		Receive Food Stamps	Farmer
Single Parent/Female		Receiving WIC	Migrant Farmworker
Single Parent/Male		Previously Received Services	Seasonal Farmworker
Two-Parent household		Referred by Head Start	Active Military
Single Person		Referred by Meals on Wheels	OWBC Staff
Two Adults/No Children			
Other			

HOUSEHOLD NEEDS ASSESSMENT			
Please mark (✓) yes for any immediate needs			
Emergency Assistance (Food, Clothing, Shelter, etc.)		Income (SSDI, TANF, SS, SSI, VA, Child Support, etc.)	
Transportation		Long Term Affordable Housing	
Child Care		Employment	
Education / Training / ESL		Utility Assistance (Including Energy Assistance)	

Please check this box to verify you have identified your household’s needs. You will receive separate correspondence regarding resources. **Your application will be considered incomplete if this box is un-checked.**

HOUSEHOLD INCOME INFORMATION			
List all household members 18 and over with the source of income and the gross (pre-tax) income information from the last 30 days			
Names of Household Members 18 and over	Income Source (Ex: No Income, TANF, SSI, Social Security, Pension, General Assistance, Unemployment, Child Support, Veteran’s Assistance, Employment)	Gross Income	
		WKLY	MNTHLY
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
TOTAL GROSS (PRE-TAX) HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR THE LAST 30 DAYS:			\$

EMERGENCY CONTACT		
Please provide an additional contact in the event we are unable to contact you.		
Name		Relationship
Phone #1 (Required)	Phone #2	Email

Please complete the information below. Incomplete applications are unable to be processed.

HOUSING INFORMATION			
Please mark (✓) for yes			
Do you live in public or subsidized housing?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – What Type _____	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
What type of housing?	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Apartment <input type="checkbox"/> Room Rented
Is the housing rented or owned?	<input type="checkbox"/> Owned	<input type="checkbox"/> Rented	
How much is the rent/mortgage?	\$ _____ per month		
Year built (if known):	_____		

WEATHERIZATION INFORMATION			
Please mark (✓) for yes			
Weatherization is the process of reducing energy costs by increasing energy efficiency in homes.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in getting information/assistance to weatherize my home			
Has your home ever been weatherized?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Date _____	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Do you have the following in your home?	<input type="checkbox"/> Roof Leakage	<input type="checkbox"/> Broken Windows	<input type="checkbox"/> Holes in Walls or Floors

UTILITY SERVICE VENDOR INFORMATION			
Please mark (✓) for yes			
How does your family pay for utilities?	<input type="checkbox"/> To Utility Company	<input type="checkbox"/> To Landlord	<input type="checkbox"/> Included in Rent
Electric Utility Company/Vendor: _____	Account No. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling
Gas Utility Company/Vendor: _____	Account No. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling
Propane Company/Vendor: _____	Account No. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling
Other Energy Company/Vendor: _____	Fuel Type: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling
Type of Air Conditioning Used:	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Unit	<input type="checkbox"/> Evaporator Cooler	<input type="checkbox"/> Window Unit <input type="checkbox"/> None
<input type="checkbox"/> Broken/In Need of Repair			
Type of Heater Used:	<input type="checkbox"/> Electric	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Propane <input type="checkbox"/> Wood/Fire Place
<input type="checkbox"/> Broken/In Need of Repair		<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

AUTHORIZATION

1. The information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
2. I understand that my household gross (pre-tax) income has been annualized, at the time of application, according to pre-established agency procedure.
3. I understand that I may request a hearing to appeal a denial of eligibility, amount of assistance received, or a delay in service delay.
4. I authorize the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs and Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet Counties, Inc. to solicit/verify information including utility and/or fuel bills (if applying for utility assistance) and employment verification, both past and future, to the extent that the information is used only to determine eligibility and provide data.
5. I am an applicant of Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet Counties, Inc. I hereby give my permission to release and verify all information requested and understand that it will be kept in strict confidence to be used for program purposes only. I understand that a photocopy of this release is as valid as the original and may be used to obtain employment information or verify other data.
6. I give permission for pictures to be taken for identification purposes, projects, publications, newsletter, and/or promotional activities for Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet Counties, Inc. I give permission for comments to be used in projects, publications, newsletter, and/or promotional activities for Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet Counties, Inc.
7. I am aware that I am subject to prosecution for providing false or fraudulent information on this application. I also understand that receipt or assistance through misrepresentation or fraud is punishable by fine or imprisonment.
8. I understand that **if I change utility companies I must notify Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet Counties, Inc. within 5 business days** with my new utility company, account number, and name on the account. If I do not notify Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet Counties, Inc. of my new utility company I will lose any payments due. When the information is provided any remaining assistance may be reinstated. (If applying for utility assistance)
9. I understand that if my current monthly bill exceeds the payment agreement for that month that I am responsible for the remaining balance owed to the vendor. Should I be disconnected for failure to pay any remaining balance owed to the vendor, I will be terminated from the Utility Assistance program, and this agreement becomes null and void. (If applying for utility assistance)

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Agency Worker

Date



CSBG Case Management Program Community Services Block Grant

OWBC offers CSBG Case Management as a cooperative program.
It is designed to assist families in becoming self-supporting.

Requirements:

- ✓ Resident of Williamson or Burnet County
- ✓ Income-Based program
- ✓ Desire to be challenged
- ✓ Willingness to make a change
- ✓ Commitment to take the steps necessary to become self-sufficient

Families are already making better lives for themselves through this program.

How does the CSBG Case Management Program work for your family?

- ✓ Case manager provides wrap-around coaching methods specific to your family’s needs
- ✓ Activities and services guided by you to achieve your goals
- ✓ Multi-layered support by utilizing agencies and resources available in your area
- ✓ Receive measurable outcomes to success

Below are a few things to consider when deciding if this program is right for your family:

- Are you juggling your bills and still not able to keep up?
- Are you wishing you had greater skills for a career?
- Are you looking for employment?
- Are you lacking affordable childcare?
- Are you searching for guidance to get out of your current situation?
- Are you looking for a way to become successful?

A CSBG Case Manager will support you and your family and take an interest in your family’s future.

Are you ready for Case Management?

What are your key goals? _____

What are your main challenges? _____

Would you like a case manager to contact you for a screening? Yes No

Case Managers are available **Monday – Friday 8am to 5pm** with exception to holidays.

What are the best times to contact you? _____ Contact Name _____

County of Residence Williamson Burnet

Service Area: Williamson and Burnet Counties

604 High Tech Drive, Georgetown, TX 78626 (512) 255-2202 (512)763-1411 (Fax)
CommunityServices@OpportunitiesForWBC.org / www.opportunitiesforwbc.org





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Declaration of No Income Statement

Complete this statement if any members in the household 18 and over do not have income.

_____	_____	_____	
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	
_____	_____	_____	_____
Physical Address	City	Zip	County

I certify that these household members do not have income.

Do NOT include members who have income – please attach their income documentation to the application.

**Names of Household Members 18 and Over
Who Have NO Income**

Reason For No Income

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. If any part is false, my participation in this agency's program may be terminated, and I may be subject to legal action. I also understand that the information in this application will be held in strict confidence within the agency and is accessible to me during normal business hours.

Signature of Applicant

Date





OPPORTUNITIES
for Williamson & Burnet Counties

Self-Identification of Disability

Complete this statement for each member in the household that is disabled and not receiving Social Security benefits. If receiving Social Security benefits, do not complete this form.

Applicant's Name _____

Name of Person with Disability _____

Relationship of Person with Disability to Applicant _____

Person with Disability is any individual who is:

- ❖ A handicapped individual as defined in §7(9) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
- ❖ Under a disability as defined in §1614(a)(3)(A) or §223(d)(1) of the Social Security Act or in §102(7) of the Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Act; or
- ❖ Receiving benefits under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 11 or 15.

I hereby authorize the above mentioned individual, for the purpose of confirming eligibility as a Person with Disability, is in accordance with the above-stated definition of Person with Disability.

I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. If any part is false, my participation in this agency's program may be terminated, and I may be subject to legal action. I also understand that the information in this application will be held in strict confidence within the agency and is accessible to me during normal business hours.

Signature of Person with Disability or His/Her Guardian

Date



For Atmos Energy Customers Only



**CLIENT CONSENT AND
RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

MAACLink is a computer system that is used locally as a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Use of an HMIS is required by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for agencies that receive HUD funding. MAACLink is not electronically connected to HUD and is only used by authorized agencies. All MAACLink users have received confidentiality training and have signed strict agreements to protect clients' personal information and limit its use appropriately.

A Privacy Notice is available at participating agencies. It provides details on how member agencies and their employees handle client information and data sharing.

I give permission to _____ (Agency Name) to collect and enter my personal and household information into the MAACLink computer system.

I understand that the MAACLink system is shared with and used by authorized agencies in my community for the purposes of:

1. Assessing the needs of low-income, homeless or other special-needs people in order to give better assistance and to improve their current or future situations.
2. Improving the quality of care and service for people in need.
3. Tracking the effectiveness of community efforts to meet the needs of people who have received assistance.
4. Reporting data on an aggregate level that does not identify specific people or their personal information.

I understand that:

- Information I give about my physical or mental health will NOT be shared outside the agency I am working with.
- I have the right to view my MAACLink file with an authorized user.
- Signing this release form does not guarantee that I will receive assistance.
- I may revoke my authorization by completing a revocation form.
- All agencies that use MAACLink will treat my information with respect and in a professional and confidential manner.
- Unauthorized people or organizations cannot gain access to my information without my consent.
- If I receive services from Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-Housing Federal Stimulus (HPRP) Funds, my information may be viewed by other participating agencies across Continuums of Care.

Client Name (Printed)	Client Signature	Date
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Agency Representative Name (Printed)	Agency Representative Signature	Date
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For Reliant Energy Customers Only

Authorization for Online Access of Account Information with Reliant Energy, Inc.

I, the undersigned Reliant Energy customer (“Customer”), hereby authorize The Energy Assistance Agency (“Agency”), to obtain online access to my Reliant Energy account information for the purpose of obtaining my 12-month billing history, 12-month payment history, and account balance (“Account Information”) to be used for the sole purpose of determining my eligibility for participation in or benefits with the Agency.

I understand that the Account Information obtained by the Agency may contain personal or personally-identifying information, and that the Agency (and not Reliant Energy) is solely responsible for the confidentiality and security of the information obtained on my behalf.

Customer Name (Print)

Customer Signature

Service Address

Date:

Energy Assistance Agency: Opportunities for Williamson & Burnet Counties, Inc.

For Austin Energy Customers Only



**Please FAX completed form to:
Austin Energy at (512) 505-4020
If you have questions please call (512) 494-9400**



Release of Customer Information Authorization Form

PURPOSE: This Release of Customer Information Authorization Form allows a City of Austin utility account holder (“Account Holder”) to delegate certain rights to an authorized party (“Authorized Party”) concerning account holder’s service(s), including authorizing receipt of confidential customer account information. This form must be completed in its entirety and signed by the Account Holder or by someone who has legal authority to bind the Account Holder.

AUTHORIZATION: I, _____ (*printed name*), state that I am the City of Austin (“City”) utility services Account Holder and hereby request and authorize the City to release my utility customer account information to:

Authorized Party: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

The scope of access to my account information is authorized as follows:
(*Account Holder must initial Restricted or Unrestricted*)

____ Limited Access

Authorized Party may do the following: (*check any or all that apply*)

- Usage and Financial Information Only
- Usage and Financial Access
- Facilities / Property Management Access
- Account Manager

Other: _____

____ Full Access

Authorized Party may conduct any transactions and receive any information regarding my utility service account.

This authorization is valid for:
(*Account Holder must initial*)

____ One-time only-Authorized Party is granted access one time.

____ One year period-Authorized Party is granted access for twelve months from the date of execution of this form.

____ Date specific-Authorized Party is granted access until (date).

____ Account closes-Authorized Party is granted access until the utility account is closed.

*** If no time period is specified, authorization will be limited to a one-time authorization**

I request that the City provide information to the Authorized Party in the format checked below, but I understand the City will provide the information in the format it deems most appropriate.

(check all that apply)

- Hard copy via US Mail *(if applicable)* _____
- Facsimile to telephone number: _____
- Electronic mail to email address: _____
- On-Line Customer Care Access: _____
- Telephone at: _____

I understand that this Authorization does not require the City to release information, and the City retains the right to verify any authorization request submitted before releasing information or taking any action.

I hereby release, hold harmless, and indemnify the City from any liability, claims, demands, and causes of action, damages, or expenses resulting from:

- 1) any release of information pursuant to this Authorization;
- 2) the unauthorized use of this information by the Authorized Party; and
- 3) any actions taken by the Authorized Party pursuant to this Authorization.

I understand that I may cancel this Authorization at any time by notifying the City in writing. I acknowledge I am signing this Authorization under my own free will and not under duress. I certify that the authorized party does not benefit from utilities at the service address listed.

Account Holder's Signature _____ Date: _____

Account Holder's Printed Name _____

Account Holder's Identification:

Social Security Number _____ - _____ - _____

or Driver's License Number _____

or Tax Identification Number _____

or Other Identification Number _____

Utility Service Address: _____

Utility Service Account Number: _____

Account Holder Daytime Phone Number: _____