



Cathedral City Utility Users Tax (UUT) Information and Exemption Instructions

The Cathedral City UUT is a 3% tax on telecommunications, cable (but not internet), gas, electricity, and solid waste disposal.

Cathedral City Residents who are 65 or over **and** who are on the California Alternative Rates for Energy (CARE) Program are exempt from the new Utility Users Tax (UUT). **But you must submit an application to the City to receive the exemption.**

Here is how it works:

If you are not on the CARE program and are 65 or over and your level of income would qualify you for the CARE program:

1. Contact Southern California Edison for an application. The City of Cathedral City is not involved in the CARE program eligibility process.
2. You can find information on the CARE program online at www.sce.com/residential/income-qualified/CAREFERA/capitation.htm or by calling 866-675-6623.
3. **You can find CARE information online for income limits for household size at www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=976**
4. When you receive an electric bill showing that you are participating in the CARE program, follow the instructions below.

If you are 65 or over and are already on the CARE program:

1. Log on to the city's website (www.cathedralcity.gov).
If you do not have access to a computer, you may pickup an application at the reception desk at City Hall, or call (760) 770-0353 and request an application be mailed to your home.
2. Click the "Utility Users Tax" button.

3. Then click UUT Exemption to download a copy of the exemption form.
4. Complete the application and attach proof of age and a copy of a current electric bill page that shows your name and account number, and the other page that indicates you are currently enrolled in the CARE program.
5. Send your application and a copy of all utility bills that are covered by the UUT [i.e., **electric, gas, cable, telephone, or cell phone**] to:

City of Cathedral City
Attn: Finance Department - UUT
68700 Avenida Lalo Guerrero
Cathedral City, CA 92234

Be sure the copies you submit include the pages that list your name and account number.

6. In the event we are unable to approve your exemption request, you will be contacted via mail and advised of the reason(s) for the denial.

The City cannot notify utility providers you are exempt if you are not paying them directly for your utility service. This is the case for those utilities that you pay to either a Mobile Home Park (MHP), or to a Home Owners Association (HOA).

However, if you are qualified for an exemption, you will be able to apply for an annual refund from the City for all UUT paid during the previous calendar year. Refund applications will be accepted at City Hall during the period of January 1 through March 31. Refund applications must be submitted with proof of all UUT paid by you to the MHP or HOA, which would be detailed on your monthly statements or an annual statement.

Discuss this with your individual MHP or HOA management, as no refund will be allowed without their documentation of each type and amount of UUT that you paid.

If you have questions, e-mail financedept@cathedralcity.gov or call at 760-770-0353.