

Orange County Power Authority (OCPA) Renter Energy Efficiency Program Handbook

Introduction

This handbook provides a step-by-step guide to help renters apply for and understand the Orange County Power Authority (OCPA) Renter Energy Efficiency Program.

Background

The OCPA Renter Energy Efficiency Program is designed to empower renter inclusion in energy efficiency, energy demand management, and electrification without needing landlord input. Offering a plug-in portable Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system paired with a portable battery enables renters to utilize smart scheduling and reduce their peak energy usage. Through this program, selected and eligible renters will receive both appliances free of cost.



Left Image: Portable Midea Duo HVAC system
Right Image: Portable EcoFlow battery system



The portable HVAC provides year-round climate control by offering heating, cooling, ventilation, and dehumidification in one device. Unlike traditional portable air conditioning units, the unit provided through the Renter Energy Efficiency Program is a heat pump that moves heat out of a room for cooling and pulls heat in for warming.

High-Level Process

Renters must complete a singular eligibility application to enter the applicant lottery for the chance to be selected. Once eligible applicants are selected, they will receive the portable HVAC system and battery at the address provided in their application.

What Makes a Good Candidate

You're a good candidate for this program if you:

- Are an active OCPA residential customer.
- Have access to a window for venting the portable HVAC unit.
- Have an outlet on a lightly loaded circuit (i.e., not shared with other high-power appliances) for the portable HVAC unit to reduce the risk of tripped breakers.
- Plan to operate the portable HVAC unit in a single room to reduce or eliminate use of your central A/C for some period of time

Eligibility Requirements

The applicant must meet the following requirements:

- Must be an OCPA residential customer.
- Must attest to renting their primary residence.
- Must acknowledge and agree to the program Terms and Conditions.

Applicants enrolled in Medical Baseline Allowance, California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE), and Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) will receive priority consideration. However, all applicants will remain eligible for selection regardless of enrollment in the programs listed.

Eligibility Application Window

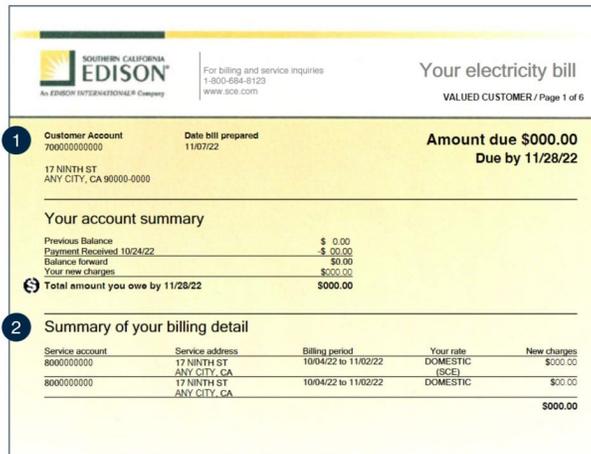
Eligibility applications will open on March 12, 2026 and close on April 5, 2026. Applicants who meet the eligibility criteria will be entered into a lottery and selected at random after applications close.

Application Process

Eligibility Application

1. Provide applicant identification information:
 - a. First and last name
 - b. Contact information
2. The applicant must verify their eligibility
 - a. Attest to being a renter at primary residence
 - b. Enter the service address and service account. Information can be collected from a recent utility bill. An example of an SCE bill is depicted below.

- i. Service Address (#1 identifies where your service address can be found)
- ii. Service Account Number (#2 identifies where the Service Account information can be found)



- 3. Optional: Opt into participating in pre- and post-appliance delivery surveys, if selected
- 4. Share where the applicant heard about the program
- 5. Optional: Opt into receiving emails on OCPA’s other programs
- 6. Agree to the Terms and Conditions

Optional Surveys

Renters have the option to participate in two surveys: pre-delivery and post-delivery. Each survey will cover questions related to equipment and usage. Survey responses will contribute to analyzing the impacts of the OCPA Renter Energy Efficiency Program. All selected applicants who opt in will receive a \$25 virtual gift card on the completion of **each** survey as a “thank you” for participating.

Appliance Delivery

Equipment delivery will occur at the address provided in the eligibility application. After the application and selection process is complete, delivery timelines will be communicated directly to selected participants. Delivery services are limited to standard ground delivery practices. No in-home placement or setup assistance will be provided.

Program Timeline

Eligibility application window	March 12 - April 5, 2026
Applicant selection and notification	April 16, 2026
Pre-delivery survey window (<i>optional</i>)	April 16 - April 30, 2026
Appliance delivery window	*Shared with selected participants

Post-delivery survey window (<i>optional</i>)	August 10 - August 24, 2026
---	-----------------------------

Terms & Conditions Acknowledgement

As part of the application, participants will be required to review and acknowledge the [Terms and Conditions](#) of the OCPA Renter Energy Efficiency Program. This acknowledgment is included directly in the online application and must be completed to submit the application and qualify to receive the appliances.

The Terms and Conditions outline key program requirements, including applicant eligibility and appliance delivery details. By providing this acknowledgment, participants confirm that all submitted information is accurate to the best of their knowledge and that they agree to comply with the program's rules and requirements.