

Utilities Assistance Programme

The Utilities Assistance Programme is an initiative of the Ministry of Public Utilities which provides assistance to low income utility customers to ensure their continued access to basic utilities.

The UAP has three components:- the **UTILITY BILL ASSISTANCE**, the **WATER TANK ASSISTANCE** and the **SOLAR PANEL ASSISTANCE**.

THE UTILITY BILL ASSISTANCE extends assistance through the payment of utility bills to qualified customers of T&TEC and WASA.

T&TEC SUBSIDY: T&TEC customers benefit from an electricity subsidy of up to \$200 per bill or a maximum of \$1200 annually. The Electricity subsidy is applied bi-monthly to the customer's T&TEC bill to coincide with the billing cycle.

WASA SUBSIDY: WASA customers who are A2 customers will receive an annual water subsidy of \$140 while A3 and A4 customers will receive a subsidy of \$200.

Who can apply

In order to benefit under the **UAP Utility Bill Assistance**, applicants must:

- have water and/or electricity account in their name;
- have a legal right to occupy property for which the subsidy is being requested.

Beneficiaries must fall in one of the following categories:

- Persons who are recipients of the Senior Citizens Pension, Disability and Public Assistance Grants or beneficiaries of the Trinidad and Tobago Conditional Cash Transfer Programme (TTCCP) from the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services
- Persons who are certified as having a disability and who earn less than \$5000 per month; or
- Persons who are 65 years or older and are in receipt of an income no more than \$5000 per month inclusive of national insurance and pension benefits.

WASA Criterion: In the case of the water bill assistance, the following are relevant:

* Persons must be residential WASA customers who own one property in Class A2, A3, and A4.

T&TEC Criteria: In the case of T&TEC customers, the following are relevant:

- Persons must be residential T&TEC customers whose average consumption over 3 billing periods (6months) is 680kWh or less
- Beneficiaries must maintain a consumption level of 680kWh or less to remain on the Programme.

How to apply

Persons who wish to apply for the **UAP Utility Bill Assistance** must submit the following documents to the Ministry of Public Utilities:

- Valid identification
- Completed application form
- Proof of right to occupy property such as Land Tax receipt and Land Deed or Certificate of Comfort
- WASA and/or T&TEC Utility bill
- Proof of receipt of Senior Citizens Pension, Disability and Public Assistance Grants or beneficiary of Trinidad and Tobago Conditional Cash Transfer Programme (TTCCP) or in case of other Pensioners,
- Proof of Income such as pension receipts, statement of pension payment from employer, or
- In case of other Disabled Persons, Proof of Disability such as medical certificate and proof of income where relevant

WATER TANK ASSISTANCE

The MPU, through its Water Tank Assistance, provides a one-time assistance of a water tank and fittings, safe water storage to low income households and community-based facilities that are without a pipe-borne water supply and have inadequate storage facilities.

Who can apply

In order to benefit under the **UAP Water Tank Assistance**, applicants must satisfy the following criteria:

- a. Be a low-income household with income no more than \$7,000 per month or a community facility used by groups such as CBOs, NGOs and FBOs;
- b. Be a household without a pipe borne water supply;
- c. Households or community facilities without suitable water storage facilities;

How to apply

Persons who wish to apply for the **UAP Water Tank Assistance** must submit the following documents to the Ministry of Public Utilities:

- Valid identification
- Completed application form
- Proof of Income such as pension receipts, Disability, Public Assistance or TT Food Card letters, Job Letter or Payslip

SOLAR PANEL ASSISTANCE

The Solar Panel Assistance of the Ministry of Public Utilities provides solar panel systems to low income households in remote communities, who are unable to access the electricity grid in order to ensure their access to an electricity supply.

Who can apply

In order to benefit under the **UAP Solar Panel Assistance**, applicants must satisfy the following criteria:

- a. Low income households with monthly income of \$10,000 or less;
- **b**. Persons must have proof of right to occupy property such as Land Deed or Certificate of Comfort; or written permission of owner with supporting documents;
- **c**. Live in an area that is outside of T&TEC's current electricity grid and has been identified as unfeasible or uneconomical for electricity infrastructure.

How to apply

Persons who wish to apply for the **UAP Solar Panel Assistance** must submit the following documents to the Ministry of Public Utilities:

- Valid identification
- Completed application form
- Proof of Income such as pension receipts, Disability, Public Assistance or TT Food Card letters,
- Job Letter or Payslip
- Proof of right to occupy house- Deed of title, Certificate of Comfort or written permission of owner;
- Capital Contribution Cost Letter from T&TEC

Interested Persons can obtain application forms from the following locations:

Ministry of Public Utilities, One Alexandra Place, #1 Alexandra Street, St Clair Tel: (868) 628-9500 Ext 4304,4302,4306

WASA Customer Service Centers

T&TEC Customer Service Centers