



Texas Trade Up Appliance Rebate Program: Guide For Texas Residents



Act Fast on April 7th:
Texas anticipates high interest in this program and rebate reservations will go quickly. Though placement on the waitlist is not a guarantee of a rebate reservation, rebate applications from waitlist participants will be processed in the order they are received pending available funds.

Overview

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 appropriated funds to each state for the establishment and administration of appliance rebate programs. Texas was awarded \$23,341,000 to implement and administer the Texas Trade Up Appliance Rebate Program through the State Energy Conservation Office at the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. The program encourages consumers to replace old (but functional) appliances with new energy efficient models, stimulating the Texas economy and increasing energy conservation efforts in Texas.

Texas Trade Up rebates will be offered for eight eligible appliance categories: central air conditioners, clothes washers, dishwashers, freezers, air-source heat pumps, hot water heaters, refrigerators, and room air conditioners. Texas residents who apply for a rebate must replace an existing functional appliance from one of the eligible categories with a new ENERGY STAR® or CEE (Consortium for Energy Efficiency) qualified appliance.

The program officially begins on **April 7, 2010**, when rebate reservations will be accepted online through **www.TexasPowerfulSmart.org** or via phone at **(877) 780-3039**. The purchase period for all appliances begins April 16, 2010. For refrigerators, freezers, clothes washers, dishwashers and room air conditioners, the purchase period ends April 25, 2010. For central air conditioners, hot water heaters and air-source heat pumps, the purchase period ends 60 days from the date of the rebate reservation or waitlist request date. All rebate applications for all appliances, regardless of purchase date, must be mailed (postmarked) within 60 days of the rebate reservation or waitlist request date.

How to Apply

The Texas Trade Up rebate process is simple:

- 1 Request a rebate reservation online or add your name to the waiting list by going to www.TexasPowerfulSmart.org or by calling (877) 780-3039 starting on **April 7, 2010**. If requesting a reservation online, you will be able to print the rebate application at the end of your session. If requesting by phone, you will receive an application by mail. The only information you need to provide for a rebate reservation is your name, address and appliance category.
- 2 Buy and install an eligible ENERGY STAR or CEE qualified product in Texas starting on April 16. (Refer to Eligible Appliance Category Chart). Remember, the purchase must replace an existing, functional appliance of the same category.
- 3 Complete the application you printed or received in the mail and mail it to the address provided on the application form within 60 days (postmarked) of the reservation or waiting list request date along with any supporting documentation required. (See Rebate Application Details)
- 4 Wait for your rebate. Once your application is received and approved, your rebate check will be mailed to you at the physical address provided on your application.



Eligible Appliance Categories, Amounts and Timelines

Appliance Category	Rebate Amount*	Purchase Period	Required Place of Purchase	Rebate Application Postmark Deadline
Refrigerators	\$240	4/16-4/25	In-store	60 days from reservation or waitlist request
Freezers	\$180	4/16-4/25	In-store	60 days from reservation or waitlist request
Room Air Conditioners	\$45	4/16-4/25	In-store	60 days from reservation or waitlist request
Clothes Washers	\$150 or \$180	4/16-4/25	In-store	60 days from reservation or waitlist request
Dishwashers	\$110 or \$140	4/16-4/25	In-store	60 days from reservation or waitlist request
Central Air Conditioners	\$600, \$800 or \$1000	4/16 through 60 days from reservation or waitlist request	In-store or from Texas contractor	60 days from reservation or waitlist request
Air-source Heat Pumps	\$1200-\$1600	4/16 through 60 days from reservation or waitlist request	In-store or from Texas contractor	60 days from reservation or waitlist request
Hot Water Heaters	\$190-640	4/16 through 60 days from reservation or waitlist request	In-store or from Texas contractor	60 days from reservation or waitlist request

* Depending on appliance type and energy efficiency of model purchased; reservation will be held for the highest amount. An additional \$75 rebate is available when the old, functional appliance being replaced is recycled.

Rebate Application Details

After you have printed your rebate application or received it by mail, you can complete it after the purchase and installation of your appliance. In addition to your contact information, the application will need to include:

- Product category
- Manufacturer
- Model #
- Date of purchase
- Purchase price (excluding sales tax)
- Retailer name, city, state and zip
- A copy of the sales receipt showing purchase of the eligible appliance during the approved purchase period

You also will need to gather the necessary signatures for the certification section of the application, which includes the following:

- a. Disposal section – required for all rebate applications for all appliances; must include the signature and address of the entity (for example, a retailer, contractor or other business handling disposal) assuming responsibility for the proper disposal of the old appliance.

- b. Recycling section – required only for \$75 bonus rebate on all appliances; must include the signature and address of the entity assuming responsibility for the proper recycling of the old appliance.
 - c. Contractor installation section – required only for central air conditioning and air-source heat pump units; must include the signature and address of the entity assuming responsibility for the installation. Please note that central air conditioners and air-source heat pumps must be installed by a contractor with a valid TDLR ACR license.
- Lastly, don't forget to sign your application and mail it back as soon as possible. It must be postmarked within 60 days of the reservation or waitlist request date.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Q When does the program start and end?

A The program opens for rebate reservations on **April 7, 2010**. A limited number of rebate reservations will be available, however Texans can request to be on the rebate waiting list once reservations have closed. In the event additional funds become available, rebate applications for those on the waiting list will be processed in the order they are received. The

same purchasing rules apply for waiting list participants. The purchase period begins April 16, 2010, and the rebate program ends when all funds are exhausted. All rebate applications must be postmarked within 60 days of the reservation or waitlist request date. See Eligible Appliance Category Chart for details.

Q Who is eligible for a Texas Trade Up rebate?

A Texas residents with a valid Texas residential address qualify for a rebate if they follow all program rules. All payments will be mailed to the residential address, with no exceptions. P.O. Boxes are not accepted without a street address.

Q Which specific categories of appliances are eligible for a rebate?

A The following appliance categories are eligible for a Texas Trade Up rebate. Efficiency criteria and rating specification listed are the minimum required to qualify for a rebate. More efficient or higher rated appliances may qualify for a higher rebate amount. Visit www.TexasPowerfulSmart.org for a full list of appliance rebate levels. (Note: SEER = Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio; EER = Energy Efficiency Ratio; HSPF = Heating Seasonal Performance Factor):

Refrigerators

14.5 cubic feet or greater (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Freezers

14.5 cubic feet or greater (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Room Air Conditioners

(at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Clothes Washers

Modified Energy Factor 1.8 or greater/Water Factor 7.5 or less (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Dishwashers (standard size)

324 kWh/year or less; 5.8 gallons/cycle or less (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Central Air Conditioners

For split systems:

14.5 SEER or greater; 12 EER or greater (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

For single package unit equipment including gas/electric:

14.0 SEER or greater; 11 EER or greater (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Air-source Heat Pumps

For split systems:

8.2 HSPF or greater; 14.5 SEER or greater; 12 EER or greater (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

For single package unit equipment including gas/electric:

8 HSPF or greater; 14 SEER or greater; 11 EER or greater (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Hot Water Heaters

Electric Heat Pump (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Gas Storage - Energy Factor 0.62 or greater (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Gas Storage - Energy Factor 0.67 or greater (at minimum CEE Tier 1 qualified models)

Gas Tankless (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Solar - Electric Back-up (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Solar - Gas Back-up (at minimum ENERGY STAR qualified models)

Q How do I know if a product is ENERGY STAR or CEE qualified?

A Current lists of qualifying models for each appliance category can be found at www.ENERGYSTAR.gov and www.CEE1.org. If you are unsure, ask a sales associate for help with identifying appliances eligible for Texas Trade Up rebates.

Q What is so special about ENERGY STAR or CEE qualified appliances?

A To qualify for the ENERGY STAR or CEE label an appliance must meet rigorous energy efficiency and water efficiency standards set by the Federal government. These appliances use less energy and less water than regular appliances and thus help the consumer save money each month on their utility bills.

Q Can I get a rebate for an appliance that I have already purchased?

A No, the energy efficiency appliance rebate program will only apply to purchases made between the eligible purchase period beginning April 16, 2010. (See Eligible Appliance Category Chart for details.)

Q If I reserved a rebate for a refrigerator but bought a dishwasher instead, can I apply the reservation to a different appliance?

A No, you must submit a rebate application for the category of appliance rebate you reserved. However, if funds are still available, you can try to request a rebate reservation for a different appliance, or if it is before April 25, you can sign up on the waitlist for an appropriate appliance category.

Please note, however, that funds are expected to go quickly and waitlist applications will only be processed pending available funds.



Q Where can I buy eligible appliances?

A Residents are required to purchase appliances in-store from a Texas retailer. Online purchases do not qualify for a rebate. Purchases of central air conditioners, air-source heat pumps and hot water heaters can also be made from a Texas contractor.

Q Can I receive more than one rebate?

A Yes, Texas residents may apply for up to two rebates per address; however, each rebate must be for a different appliance category. For example, you could receive one refrigerator rebate plus one dishwasher rebate. Applications for two dishwasher rebates would not qualify. *Please note: you must submit a separate reservation or waitlist request for each appliance. This means you will need to log-out of the online reservation system and log back in or that you will need to re-dial the reservation phone number for a second request. This process is to help ensure more Texans have a fair chance at requesting at least one rebate.*

Q I bought two appliances eligible for rebates. Can the rebate applications be mailed in the same envelope?

A No. To avoid delays in processing, separate applications must be completed for each appliance purchased and mailed in separate envelopes.

Q Do I have to replace an existing appliance to be eligible for a rebate?

A Yes, because this is an appliance replacement program, participants must agree to replace existing functional appliances with a new ENERGY STAR or CEE qualified model of a similar appliance category. Proper disposal of the old appliance and a signature certifying proper disposal is required. The rebate application provides information on how to verify this information. More information is also provided in the Rebate Application Details section of this guide.

Q Does the old appliance have to be recycled to be eligible for a rebate?

A No, participants are only required to properly dispose of the old appliance to be eligible for a rebate. However, an additional \$75 bonus rebate is available to residents who provide proper proof of recycling. See Rebate Application Details for more information on proof of recycling.

Q Can I apply for the Texas Trade Up Appliance Rebate Program in addition to other rebates offered on the same appliance?

A Yes, the Texas Trade Up rebates can be combined or stacked with other rebates offered by manufacturers, retailers and utilities. However, keep in mind that each rebate sponsor

has unique rules and application instructions. All materials provided for the Texas Trade Up Appliance Rebate Program become the property of the state and will not be returned. Because original receipts may be required for other promotions, legible copies of receipts are accepted for this program.

Q How do I check on the status of my rebate?

A Once you have reserved a rebate or added your name to the waiting list for a rebate either online or by phone, you will receive an ID number. You can use this number to check the status of your rebate either online or by phone after you have mailed in your rebate application. To check the status online, go to www.TexasPowerfulSmart.org and follow the link to the Texas Trade Up Appliance Rebate Program. To check via phone, call (877) 581-1993.

Q How will rebate applications be verified?

A Every rebate application and the data it contains will be audited to verify the qualifying purchase and other requirements.

Important Details:

- Only ENERGY STAR and CEE product models meeting the criteria and categories listed in the chart are eligible for Texas' rebates. To determine a product model's ENERGY STAR or CEE certification, Texas' agents will use product information available to the public at www.ENERGYSTAR.gov and www.CEE1.org. Substitutions of products or product categories are not allowed.
- By applying for a rebate and subsequently failing to satisfy each of the program requirements, an applicant gives up rights to the rebate and those rebate funds will no longer be available to him/her.
- Purchases of products that are used, rebuilt, rented, leased, exchanged, won as a prize, or purchased at an auction or online auction are not eligible.
- Rebate checks are issued in U.S. dollars and expire 90 days from issuance date. All unclaimed (uncashed or undeliverable) rebate checks will be handled in accordance with the Texas Property Code, Chapters 72-75.
- The rights to a rebate or a rebate application may not be transferred or sold.
- Retailers may not apply on behalf of a customer for a Texas Trade Up rebate.
- Applications in excess of the limits are not allowed.
- Applications exceeding verifiable eligible purchase are not allowed.
- Fraud of any type could result in federal prosecution under the U.S. mail fraud statutes and the U.S. Department of Energy.
- Texas is not responsible for lost, late, damaged, illegible, misdirected or postage-due applications.
- Resolution of any disputes will be governed by Texas law.

