

VOUCHER GUIDELINES

Application Type	Eligible Funding
Standard for any eligible device below	Up to \$1,000
Low-income for any eligible device below	Up to \$2,500
Additional incentive towards gas device (for both Standard and Low-income)	Up to \$500*

*Applies **only** to eligible installation costs as determined by the District.

Old Device Type	REPLACEMENT OPTIONS	
	Gas Stove/Insert or Gas Fireplace	Certified Wood or Pellet Stove/Insert
Open-hearth fireplace or wood-burning firebox	✓	✓
Non-certified wood or pellet insert/stove	✓	✓
Certified wood or pellet insert/stove	✓	✗

REQUIREMENTS & ELIGIBILITY

- The replacement or modification of the old wood or pellet device must result in emissions reduction.
- One voucher allowed per device address.**
- Do not** make any non-refundable payments, disassemble your old device or install your new device until you receive a District Voucher
- Old gas stoves, gas inserts, gas fireplaces, or devices with a gas log are **not eligible** for replacement through this program.
- Old and New electric heating devices are not eligible through this program.
- New certified wood or pellet devices must be identified on the current list of EPA Certified Wood Heaters to be eligible for Burn Cleaner. For List of EPA Certified devices please visit <https://www.epa.gov/compliance/list-epa-certified-wood-stoves>
- New gas fireplaces must be certified as heater-rated, which are tested using the American National Standard ANSI Z21.88/CSA 2.33 (Vented Gas Fireplace Heaters). Gas fireplaces that are designed exclusively for aesthetic and decorative use are **not eligible**.
- Homes owned by local Public Housing Authorities are not eligible.
- Tenants in multi-unit residential complexes with more than two units are not eligible for low-income funding.
- The applicant of the real property must not be subject to any related District, state or federal rules or regulations that require a replacement or permanent destruction of the old device, such as District Rule 4901 – Wood Burning Fireplaces and Wood Burning Heaters (i.e., you can not be purchasing the new device in preparation for the sale of a house).
- The property where the device is to be installed must be located within the San Joaquin Valley (SVJ) air basin, which includes the following counties: San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the SVJ portion of Kern County.
- Installation of a new device must be conducted by the contracted Retailer; a third-party contractor under the approval and supervision of the Retailer; or by a certified/licensed technician that is pre-approved by the District. Self-installation or installation by non-licensed contractor is not eligible under this program.
- New device must be purchased from a contracted retailer, for a list of eligible retailers visit www.valleyair.org/burncleaner.
- All old wood/pellet devices replaced and removed through this program must be permanently destroyed by a licensed recycling/dismantling facility.
- Priority will be given to low-income applicants, those purchasing natural-gas devices and those that reside in an area without piped natural-gas service. Low-income Eligibility Form available at www.valleyair.org/burncleaner.
- The new device must remain installed at the device address for a minimum of three years.
- Before and after photos are required, see page 2.

VOUCHER GUIDELINES (Continued)

BEFORE AND AFTER PHOTO GUIDELINES

Photo Guidelines

Before Photos

Two photos are required during the Voucher Application process (Phase 1) to determine eligibility.

- 1) First photo should be a close up of the inside of the unit with any screen or doors open.
- 2) Second photo should clearly show the device and background. This photo will be compared to the after photo to confirm the old device has been replaced.

PHOTOS MUST:

- a. Show device in its original location and have all original parts intact (i.e. panels, screens, etc.). For freestanding stoves, the Applicant must provide a photo with the pipe and ventilation system intact.
- b. Be taken before the installation of any parts for new device (i.e. new electrical outlets, etc).

Sample Photos

Photo 1



Photo2



After Photo

One photo is required during the Claim for Payment process (Phase 3)

- 1) Photo should clearly show the new device and background.
 - a. Please provide an explanation if the surrounding is different (i.e. major reconstruction, refacing of fireplace or new location).

NOTE: Your claim may be delayed if staff cannot determine if the new device is in the same location as the old device.



PAYMENT PROCESS

Payment Options

Steps

Instant Reduction

Only available to qualified low-income applicants who purchase from a retailer offering the instant Reduction option. See Burn Cleaner Retailers List for retailers who provide this option.

- After receipt of an approved voucher, applicant purchases an eligible new device from a retailer participating in the Instant Reduction Option and only pays for the cost of the new device and installation that exceeds the voucher amount. Voucher amount is applied directly at point of purchase through the retailer to reduce the out-of-pocket cost.
- Applicant signs the voucher and gives the claim for payment packet to the retailer, who will submit it directly to the District for reimbursement of the reduced amount. For installations completed by a subcontractor (not retailer), applicant will need to submit a separate claim directly to the District for reimbursement of any remaining voucher amount.
- Applicant must ensure the claim to reimburse the retailer is properly completed, including but not limited to, signing all necessary paperwork, providing appropriate supporting documentation and resolving any issues pertaining to the purchase and installation of the new device.

Reimbursement

Available to all qualified applicants. See Burn Cleaner Retailers list for all contracted retailers.

- After receipt of an approved voucher, applicant purchases an eligible new device from participating program retailer and pays for the entire cost of the new device, including installation.
- After making full payment, applicant submits a completed claim for payment packet to the District for reimbursement to the applicant.