

Alabama Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program



Introduction

Guide for Appliance Retailers

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 appropriated funds to each state for the establishment and administration of appliance rebate programs. The amount available to Alabama residents is \$4,164,653.

A goal of the program is to stimulate the economy by encouraging consumers to replace old appliances from an eligible appliance category with new energy efficient models. The State of Alabama expects a favorable response to this program that will exhaust the rebate funds quickly.

As a retailer serving Alabama residents, your role is to communicate the details of this program to consumers accurately. Please take time to familiarize yourself with this program using this guide and the web site as resources.

By working together, we can make this program a success for Alabama retailers and residents alike.

Sincerely,

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs - Energy Division

Q & A

When does the program start and end?

This program begins April 19, 2010 and ends the instant the funds run out.

How do Alabama retailers prepare?

Designed to have minimal impact on your operations, this is a consumer program, not a retailer program. Retailers are encouraged to help Alabama residents understand the process. Alabama residents are responsible for applying correctly.

Who is eligible?

An Alabama resident with a valid Alabama residential address who follows the program's rules. All payments will be mailed to this address, with no exceptions. Retail employees meeting these criteria are also eligible.

How do residents apply for these rebates?

Beginning April 19th, residents should check funds availability at www.ALrebates.com or by calling 1-877-856-6645. Residents can then apply in two different ways:

Option 1

1. Buy an eligible ENERGY STAR qualified product.
2. Apply for a rebate at the program's website or toll-free number.
3. Mail the required materials within 15 days of the online or phone application.

Option 2

1. Apply to reserve funds at the program's website or toll-free number.
2. Buy an eligible ENERGY STAR qualified product.
3. Complete the application and mail the required materials within 15 days of the reservation.

Where must a Alabama resident buy the product?

Alabama residents are encouraged to buy from Alabama retailers, but it is not a requirement. Online purchases do not qualify.

How do we know if a product is ENERGY STAR qualified?

All products that have earned this certification feature the familiar ENERGY STAR logo on the front of the product and on the product packaging. If you are unsure, visit www.ENERGYSTAR.gov for a complete list of ENERGY STAR qualified products and models.

Can a retailer help a customer complete a rebate application?

Yes, and due to the expected response, it would be in your best interest to help residents apply immediately after the sale. The Alabama resident's name and address must be on the application, not the retailer's information.

What is the limit?

Residents may apply for a rebate on up to two appliances per household. Rebates must be on different appliance types. For example, one refrigerator rebate plus one dishwasher rebate would qualify. Applications for two dishwasher rebates would not qualify.

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Why is this a mail-in program instead of a discount?

This program's fixed budget requires rebate application processing on a first-come-first-serve basis. The method we chose guarantees a good rebate experience to Alabama retailers and residents. It also protects Alabama retailers from the potential frustration of retailer-administered programs.

Is appliance recycling required to be eligible?

Residents must certify the new ENERGY STAR qualified appliance replaces an existing appliance, which is a key requirement of this program. Recycling is encouraged, but not required.

How often are available funds updated?

They are calculated and communicated in real time at www.ALrebates.com and 1-877-242-3241.

What products qualify? (See chart below)

Select a category at www.ALrebates.com to display all the ENERGY STAR qualified product models. Another resource is www.ENERGYSTAR.gov.

Can a resident apply for the Alabama energy rebate and the manufacturer's or retailer's rebate on the same appliance?

Yes, but remind the resident that each rebate sponsor has unique rules and application instructions. All mailed energy rebate materials become Alabama's property and will not be returned, so help Alabama residents mail copies of the receipts/invoices, as the originals may be required for the other rebate offers.

How will applications be verified?

Every rebate application and the data it contains will be audited to verify the qualifying purchase and other requirements. Retailers in Alabama and neighboring states may be asked to provide occasional assistance and information as Alabama validates specific sales transactions.

Eligible ENERGY STAR Appliance Categories	Visa® Prepaid Rebate Value
Clothes Washers	\$100
Dishwashers	\$75
Freezers	\$50
Refrigerators (standard size)*	\$150
Room Air Conditioners	\$25

*Refrigerator purchase must be at least 7.75 cubic feet and priced over \$500 to qualify.

Terms & Conditions

- Only ENERGY STAR product models in the specific categories listed above are eligible for Alabama's rebates. To determine a product model's ENERGY STAR certification, Alabama's agents will use product information available to the public at www.ENERGYSTAR.gov. Substitutions of products or product categories are not allowed. Call us at 1-877-242-3241 if you find an exception.
- 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 the applicant.
- Purchases of products that are used, rebuilt, rented, leased, exchanged, won as a prize or purchased at auction or online auction are not eligible.
- Cards are issued by Citibank, N.A. pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc and managed by Citi Prepaid Services. Cards will not have cash value and can be used everywhere Visa debit cards are accepted.
- The rights to a rebate or a rebate application may not be transferred or sold.
- Retailers may not apply for Alabama's energy rebate.
- Applications in excess of the limits are not allowed.
- Applications exceeding verifiable eligible purchases are not allowed.
- Fraud of any type could result in federal prosecution under the US mail fraud statutes.
- Alabama is not responsible for lost, late, damaged, illegible, misdirected or postage-due applications.
- Resolution of any disputes will be governed by Alabama law.