



Utility Incentive Program

Purpose and Objectives:

The purpose of this program is to encourage and draw new businesses into Downtown Whiteville. Downtown Whiteville is the center of the city and is a main economic driver for the City. The City of Whiteville encourages businesses to consider locating in the Downtown area close to other shops, restaurants and retail business to create a walkable environment within the City of Whiteville.

Utility Incentive Program Description:

- The City of Whiteville will issue a one-time disbursement to eligible businesses following the schedule below.
- The disbursement will be made after each one full year of operation, and upon confirmation from the utility billing of utility payments being made in full.

Qualifying Businesses	Amount of Incentive
Year 1	20% monthly discount of w/s service
Year 2	30% monthly discount of w/s service

Program Eligibility Requirements:

Year 1

1. The applicant must complete the questionnaire which will be reviewed by the City Manager.
2. The applicant must provide a copy of the zoning/applicable permits issued by the City of Whiteville.
3. The business must be open at least 5 days a week for 8 hours per day.
4. The business must show proof of at least 1 year lease agreement or proof of ownership.
5. The business must be located in the Downtown Whiteville Special Tax District.
6. All property taxes must be paid in full on the property on date of application.
7. Must have a 1-hour consultation with SCC Workforce Development Center personnel and provide documentation to that effect.
8. Water/Sewer Account must be in tenant's name if building is being leased.

Year 2

1. The business must have been in continuous operation for two years from the date of opening.
2. Updated Business Questionnaire.
3. The business must be open at least 5 days a week for 8 hours per day.
4. The business must show proof of at least an additional year lease agreement or proof of ownership.
5. The business must be located in the Downtown Whiteville Special Tax District.
6. All property taxes must be paid in full on the property on date of application.
7. Application will be reviewed by the City Manager, and signed for reimbursement.

Program Application requirements:

No application will be considered without the following documentation:

1. Completed application form and business questionnaire.
2. Business questionnaire/checklist to be reviewed by Whiteville City Manager for completeness.
3. Copy of the zoning permit issued by the City of Whiteville.
4. Copy of one year lease agreement or proof of ownership.

Review and Approval Process:

1. Application should be submitted to Economic Development Planner, Madison Ward located at, 701 St. Madison St. Whiteville (Vineland Station Office)
2. The Committee will not review applications that are incomplete.
3. Application will be reviewed by the City Manager. The City Manager may deny any application it does not feel meets the minimum requirements of the program, or if it feels the business will not contribute to the character and prosperity of Downtown Whiteville.