Service Charges Assistance (Discount)

Who will be eligible?

- Low income residents who qualify for the PG&E CARE discount program

How much financial assistance can I get?

- Up to 20% discount on Service Charges (An estimated $15 per month reduction for the average Single Family Residence)

What are the income requirements?

- This program will follow the PG&E CARE program requirements at http://www.pge.com/care

Where do I apply?

- Residents may apply by mailing a copy of their PG&E utility bill showing that they are enrolled in PG&E's CARE program to this address:

County Public Works
Attn: Ken Cardoza
County Government Center, Room 206
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Lateral Connection Funding (Grant)

Who will be eligible?

- Low income property owners of owner occupied properties

How much financial assistance can I get?

- Eligible costs for lateral connections and septic system decommissioning up to $10,000

What are the income requirements?

- Low income criteria of 80% of Median Household Income (MHI)

Where do I apply?

- Complete an Income Certification Application to verify eligibility and apply for the program. Further information can be found at *http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/PW/LOWWP.htm*

**The Service Charges Assistance and Lateral Connection Funding Programs are still being developed. All information is tentative until adopted by the Board of Supervisors.*

Senior/Low Income Assistance Programs

1. **Property Tax Postponement (Loan)**
2. **USDA 504 Program (Loan/Grant)**
3. **Service Charges Assistance (Discount)**
4. **Lateral Connection Funding (Grant)**

2016 Median Household Income (2017 may be different).					
Household Size	1	2	3	4	5
Very Low Income (50% of MHI)	$38,550	$38,550	$38,550	$38,550	$41,650
Low Income (80% of MHI)	$42,800	$48,900	$55,000	$61,100	$66,000

Property Tax Postponement (Loan)

Who Can Apply?

Applicants must meet all the following criteria:

- Be at least 62 years of age, or blind or [1]disabled;
- Own and occupy the property as his or her principal place of residence:
- Have a total household income of $35,500 or less: and
- Have at least 40% equity in the property each year an application is submitted

What are the Terms?

What does the postponement program cover?

- The program allows postponement of property taxes appearing on the County tax bill, which includes all ad valorem property taxes, special assessments and charges. (ie. sewer assessments and service charges)

When and how often should I apply?

- Applications will be accepted beginning October 1, 2016. Applications will be approved and funded on a first-come, first-serve basis as long as funds are available. You must file an application for each new fiscal year.

What is the Interest Rate?

- Beginning July 1, 2016, the rate of interest shall be 7% simple interest per annum.

Example: On a $1,000 PTP account balance x 7% simple interest= $70.00 interest per year; $70.00 divided by 12 months= $5.83 in accrued interest each month.

When Will the Loan become due?

- The loan becomes due and payable when the claimant moves, sells, dies, changes title on the property, becomes delinquent on a senior lien, was erroneously approved into the program, refinances home, or participates in a reverse mortgage.

Where do I apply?

- Under this bill, applications may be filed with the State Controller's Office beginning October 1, 2016. Applications will not be accepted prior to October 1, 2016.

Property Tax Postponement Program

http://www.sco.ca.gov/ardtax_prop_tax_postponement.html

[1] Generally, a person is considered disabled if he or she is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity due to a physical or mental impairment that is expected to last for a continuous period of 12 months or longer. Proof of disability is required every year.

USDA 504 Program (Loan/Grant)

What does this program do?

Provides loans to very-low-income homeowners to repair, improve or modernize their homes or grants to elderly very-low-income homeowners to remove health and safety hazards.

Who Can Apply?

Applicants must meet all the following criteria:

- Be the homeowner of owner occupied house;
- Be unable to obtain affordable credit elsewhere; and
- Have a family income below 50 percent of the area median income
- For grants, be age 62 or older and not be able to repay a repair loan

How may funds be used?

- Loans may be used to repair, improve or modernize homes or remove health and safety hazards (including sewer lateral connections)

What are the Loan/Grant Terms?

How much money can I get?

- Maximum loan is $20,000; maximum grant is $7,500
- Loans and grants can be combined for up to $27,500 in assistance

What are the terms of the loan or grant?

- Loans can be repaid over 20 years at 1% fixed interest rate
- Grants have a lifetime limit of $7,500
- Grants must be repaid if the property is sold in less than 3 years
- If applicants can repay part, but not all of the costs, applicants may be offered a loan and grant combination

Where do I apply?

- The County will assist eligible homeowners with applications. Applications are valid for 6 months, so they must be submitted close to the actual connection date.

USDA 504 program

http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants