

Colorado Springs Utilities
Home Improvement Financing
Pre-approved Projects and Standards
Revised March 16, 2009

Our Home Improvement Financing program offers convenient financing at special HomeVantage® rates to help customers with energy and water-efficiency home improvements as well as utility-related projects. Below are the pre-approved projects and minimum standards eligible for financing under the Home Improvement Financing program.

Measure	Minimum Standard
Heating & Cooling	
Boilers	85%+AFUE
Furnaces	90%+AFUE
Central Air Conditioners	14+SEER
Electric Air – Source Heat Pumps	15+SEER and 8.2+HSPF
Evaporative Coolers	N/A
Ground Source Heat Pumps	3.6+ COP
Programmable Thermostats*	Energy Star labeled product
Room Air Conditioners	<6,000 Btu/hr = at least 10.7 SEER 6,000-7,999 Btu/hr = at least 10.7 SEER 8,000-13,999 Btu/hr = at least 10.8 SEER 14,000-19,999 Btu/hr = at least 10.7 SEER >20,000 Btu/hr = at least 9.4 SEER
Misc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When installing high efficiency space heating equipment, any associated ductwork, grilles, diffusers, and air cleaners can be financed along with the equipment. • When a heating system is replaced, asbestos abatement necessary to install the new heating unit may be financed. • Incidentals such as electrical work associated with the installation of a new high-efficiency air conditioner are eligible for financing. • Upgrading electrical service (e.g., going from 60-amp to 100-amp service) is eligible for financing if installed with high efficiency heating/cooling equipment.
Water Heaters	
Electric Water Heater	.93+ Energy Factor
Natural Gas <49 Gallon Water Heater	.80+ Energy Factor
Natural Gas 50+ Gallon Water Heater	.80+ Energy Factor
Insulation	
Attic Insulation	As near as possible to R-49
Wall Insulation	Fill cavity to capacity
Floor insulation*	R-25
Crawl Space Insulation*	R-19
Slab Edge Insulation*	R-8
Basement Insulation*	R-11

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Weather-stripping*	All covered
Pipe Insulation*	All covered
Caulking*	All covered
Duct Sealing*	All covered
Misc.	Incidentals such as attic venting which are required with the installation of attic insulation are eligible for financing.
Appliances	
Clothes Dryer – Electric	Energy Star
Clothes Dryer – Gas	Energy Star
Clothes Washer	Energy Star
Dishwasher	Energy Star
Ranges & Ovens	Energy Star
Refrigerators/ Refrigerators-Freezers/Freezers	Energy Star
Windows & Doors	
Replacement windows or Replacement Sash Kits	Energy Star
Replacement Exterior Doors	Urethane core 5-13.5 or Polystyrene core 5-7.5
Storm-windows and Doors	All Units
Fuel Switching	
Space Heater Conversion	Same efficiency as standard units
Water Heating Conversions	Same efficiency as standard units
Gas Line Extensions	City and Colorado Springs Utilities Codes
Range Conversion	City Code
Dryer Conversion	City Code
Electric line Extensions	City Code
Wastewater line Extensions	City and Colorado Springs Utilities Codes
Misc. Plumbing & Electrical Repairs	
Electrical Service Upgrades/rewiring	Upgrade to current codes
Plumbing Upgrades and Retrofitting	Upgrade to current codes
Water Backflow Devices	EPA Regulations/Guidelines
Service Line Repairs/Replacement	
Water	
Wastewater	
Natural Gas	

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Landscape Addition June 2001	
Landscaping	<p>Design & Construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New or retrofit Xeriscape design and construction that incorporates the seven Principles of Xeriscape (see attached). Design and construction must include less than 40% turf grass total area, e.g. cool season grass such as blue grass, fescue and rye. Turf not allowed on slopes greater than 5:1 (A slope that rises one foot in a distance of 5 feet, otherwise expressed as a slope of 20%) (applies to standards below) <p>Plant Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turf grass*: Bluegrass, Fescue and Rye (sod or seed). Soil amendment required. • Native seed, warm or cool season turf*: Broadcast seed, hydroseed, drill & seed • Plants: Trees, shrubs and perennials must be planted and irrigated in separate hydrozones from turf areas. Trees and planting beds must be mulched to the appropriate depth using organic mulch. <p>Soil amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compost, sphagnum peat, humus or wood chips (Mountain peat not allowed), 3.5 cubic yards per 1000 sq. feet of planting area incorporated (tilled) into existing soil • Required if turf grass is used – Strongly recommended soil prep for ALL landscaped areas. <p>Hardscape materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retaining walls and patio areas: rock, boulders, flagstone, concrete, timbers, brick pavers or keystone* • Decking material and storage sheds (construction or installation): lumber, recycled plastic timbers, nails screws and materials <p>Mulch*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic Mulch (shredded wood chips or bark), placed directly on the soil surface 3 – 4 inches deep. • Inorganic Mulch (rock and cobble) used in

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	<p>areas without vegetation and surrounding the house foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No plastic is allowed under inorganic mulch
Tree Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pruning and Removal of large trees • Treatment for disease and insects • Service must be provided by a certified and/or licensed arborist
Irrigation	<p>Irrigation System Design and Installation (or retrofit):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmable clock to change sprinkler run times to match season and plant needs • Uniform distribution and matched precipitation rate nozzles on each sprinkler zone. • Separate zones for turf areas and shrubs and tree areas. • System must include rain shut-off device or use a climate or sensor-based controller • Drip Irrigation System or soaker hose to be used for shrub and flower beds or garden areas • Irrigation can be professionally contracted or can be installed by the homeowner
Photovoltaic (PV) Systems	(Addition on Jan 1, 2006)
Photovoltaic (PV) Modules	<p>See Colorado Springs Utilities PV Rebate Application or California Energy Commission Website: www.gosolarcalifornia.org/equipment/pvmodule.php</p>
Inverters	<p>See Colorado Springs Utilities PV Rebate Application or California Energy Commission Website: www.gosolarcalifornia.org/equipment/inverter.php</p>
Solar Domestic Hot Water Systems	<p>See summary of Solar Rating Certification Corporation (SRCC) certified solar collector and water heating system ratings Website: www.solar-rating.org/SUMMARY/Dirsum.pdf.</p>

* Measures may not qualify for minimum loan requirements alone but qualify when combined with other measures
Notes: All measures are subject to Colorado Springs Utilities inspections as noted in inspection process.