About the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP)

Overview

The purpose of the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) is to help keep victims of crime safe. This includes victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, and hate crime or bias incident, as well as victims' families.

The ACP lets victims of crime receive a substitute address, while keeping their residential address confidential. As part of a comprehensive safety plan, the ACP helps prevent abusers from locating their victims through finding an address in state and local government records.

How does the ACP work?

When you participate in the ACP, you designate the Attorney General or designee as your legal agent to receive mail and legal process service (papers for being served) for you.

- ACP staff receive mail for program participants at a post office box in Salem, Oregon.
- Legal process service is received at the Department of Justice in Salem, Oregon.

Then, ACP staff forward first class, certified, and registered mail, and legal papers to people registered in the program. This way, people can still receive mail and legal papers without their address being known or used.

Am I Eligible?

The basic requirements to participate in the ACP are:

- Resides in Oregon
- Victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, or hate crime or bias incident
- Age 18 or older, or parent/guardian acting on behalf of a minor or an incapacitated adult
- Resides at a location unknown to the perpetrator
- Has a safety plan that was developed with an advocate or attorney

Please discuss your safety concerns with your advocate or an attorney and ask about other programs and resources that can help keep you safe.

Safety Planning

ACP works in partnership with advocacy organizations that help develop a comprehensive safety plan.

Remember, participation in the ACP is *only one part of a comprehensive safety plan*. By itself, the ACP cannot keep you safe. The services we provide are administrative, like forwarding mail. ACP staff do not provide threat assessment, safety planning, social services, or legal advice.

How to Apply

To apply, meet with an advocate in your area who is a **certified Application Assistant (AA)**.

The AA will conduct comprehensive safety planning with you, provide an overview of ACP services, explain your rights and responsibilities in the program, and review evidence to determine if you are eligible.

If you and the AA agree that a confidential address through the ACP would be a helpful part of your safety plan, the AA will:

- help you complete the ACP application
- recommend you for participation in the ACP
- submit the paperwork to the ACP on your behalf

Find a Certified Application Assistant (AA)

A list of AAs by county can be found at our website: doj.state.or.us/app-asst.

You can also contact the ACP directly for assistance with finding an AA. ACP staff can be reached by telephone, email, or mail.

A substitute address from the ACP cannot be used for convicted sex offenders who are required to register their residential address with criminal justice agencies or for community registration.

The Address Confidentiality
Program (ACP) forwards mail and
protects the addresses of
victims of crime.

What the ACP Does

- Helps you and your family keep your new home address confidential.
- The ACP gives you a legal substitute address to use with public agencies, instead of using your residential address.
- The ACP receives mail and legal process service for you, then forwards it to your confidential location.
- When you participate in the ACP, you can obtain an Oregon license or ID card, register to vote, file court documents, register your dependents for public school, and more, without creating a public record with your residential address.

What the ACP Does Not Do

- Used alone, the ACP cannot keep you safe.
- The ACP does not give you money, grants, or assistance for a confidential relocation.
- It is not a witness protection program.
- It does not hide participants or relieve them of their financial and legal responsibilities.
- The ACP cannot remove or delete information that is already in public record.
- It does not provide threat assessment, safety planning, social services, or legal advice.

Resources

Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence (OCADSV)

Find shelters, an advocate or advocacy programs, and legal assistance near you: ocadsv.org/find-help

National Human Trafficking Hotline

Find local help and resources to leave a sex or labor trafficking situation:

Call 1–888–373–7888 or Send a text to BeFree (233733)

Website: <u>HumanTraffickingHotline.org</u>

Bias Response Hotline

Statewide, confidential, non-emergency 1-844-924-BIAS (2427) StandAgainstHate.Oregon.gov Interpretation in 240+ languages We Accept All Relay Calls

Contact the ACP

Address Confidentiality Program PO Box 1108 Salem. OR 97308

Phone: 503-373-1323

Toll Free in Oregon: 888-559-9090

Fax: 503-373-1340

Email: acp@doj.state.or.us
Website: doj.state.or.us/ACP

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Is ACP for Me?

About the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP)

Protecting the addresses of victims of crime

Victims' Services
Oregon Department of Justice