

# Make your rent more affordable



## Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters

### A Guide to Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER)

**The Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters provides eligible seniors with monthly assistance to help with their monthly rent payments.**

### Do you qualify for assistance?

You **may be eligible** for the SAFER Program if you meet **all** of the following criteria:

- ➔ You are age 60 or older.
- ➔ You have lived in British Columbia for the full 12 months immediately preceding your application.
- ➔ You and your spouse (with whom you are living) meet the citizenship requirements:
  - Applicants must permanently reside in British Columbia when applying, and each member of the household must be one of the following:
    - Canadian citizens not under sponsorship
    - Individuals lawfully admitted into Canada for permanent residence and not under sponsorship
    - Individuals who have applied for refugee status
    - Individuals for whom private sponsorship has broken down
- ➔ You pay more than 30 percent of your gross (before tax) monthly household income towards the rent for your home, including the cost of pad rental for a manufactured home (trailer) that you own and occupy.

Once you have confirmed your eligibility, the next step is to complete an application form.



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## Get an application form and fill it out

If you are eligible for rental assistance, you can get an application form in two ways:

1. **Download from Online:** Find application form at [www.bchousing.org/safer](http://www.bchousing.org/safer)
2. **By mail:** Request a paper copy of the application form by calling 604-433-2218 or 1-800-257-7756

## Supporting Documents

When applying for the Shelter Aid For Elderly Renters (SAFER) program, the following sections of the application form will require supporting documents:

- Proof of income (tax return)
- Proof of Age
- Proof of Rent
- Bank Information (for direct deposit)

For more information on required documentation, go to [www.bchousing.org/safer](http://www.bchousing.org/safer) for an application checklist.

All information collected is for the purpose of determining eligibility and is kept strictly confidential.

## Submit your application

You can submit your application in the following ways:

- ➔ **Upload:** You can scan your application and upload it using our Program Upload Form at [www.bchousing.org/puf](http://www.bchousing.org/puf)
- ➔ **In person:** Drop off completed applications in the mail slot at a BC Housing Office.  
Note: Due to COVID-19, BC Housing offices are closed to walk in visitors. Please visit our website or call to see if offices have reopened.
- ➔ **By fax:** Completed application forms and a copy of supporting documents can be faxed to 604-439-4729
- ➔ **By mail:**
  - 📍 **Shelter Aid For Elderly Renters Program,**  
BC Housing,  
101-4555 Kingsway,  
Burnaby, BC, V5H 4V8

Please **do not include any original documents**, only photocopies.  
Once your application has been processed, notification will be sent by mail.

## Keep us up to date

It is important that you notify the SAFER office if there is any change to your income, the number of people living with you, if you receive a rent increase or if you move.

To contact us call (604) 433-2218 or 1-800-257-7756 outside the Lower Mainland.

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday  
(excluding holidays)

