

What is domestic violence?

- Physical abuse, harassment, intimidation of a dependent, interference with personal liberty or willful deprivation by a family or household member.
- The threat of physical abuse, harassment, intimidation of a dependent, interference with personal liberty or willful deprivation by a family or household member.
- “Family or household members” include spouses, former spouses, parents, children, stepchildren and other persons related by blood or by present or prior marriage, persons who share or formerly shared a common dwelling, persons who have or allegedly have a child in common, persons who share or allegedly share a blood relationship through a child, persons who have or have had a dating or engagement relationship, persons with disabilities and their personal assistants, and caregivers as defined in Section 12-4.4a of the Criminal Code of 2012.
- “Interference with personal liberty” means committing or threatening physical abuse, harassment, intimidation or willful deprivation so as to compel another to engage in conduct from which she or he has a right to abstain or to refrain from conduct in which she or he has a right to engage.



KWAME RAOUL ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Address Confidentiality Program is an integral part of a safety plan and will not provide adequate protection on its own. You are strongly encouraged to work with an advocate to develop a comprehensive safety plan. To locate an advocate, contact the Illinois Domestic Violence Helpline at (877) 863-6338.

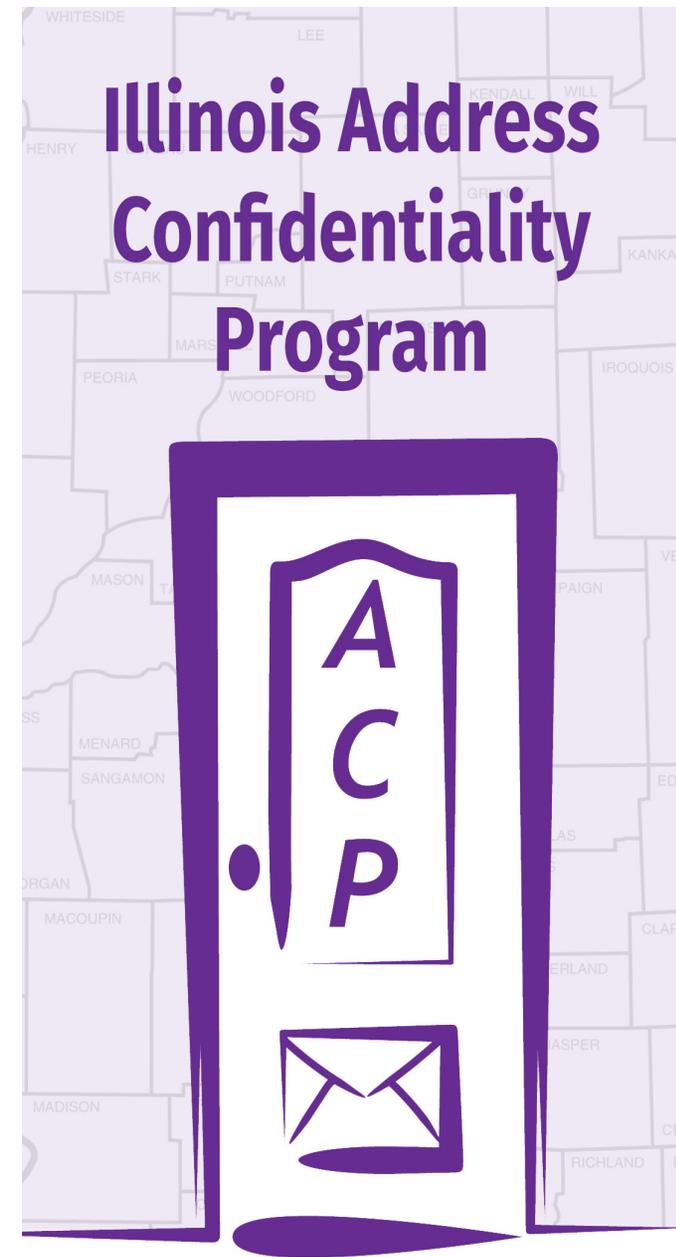
For more information about how you can protect yourself through the Address Confidentiality Program, please contact our office at:

1-844-916-0295 (Toll-Free)

1-877-398-1130 (TTY)

acp@atg.state.il.us

http://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims/address_confidentiality.html



What is the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP)?

The ACP provides survivors of domestic violence with a substitute address to use instead of their real address. The ACP Substitute Address helps prevent abusers from locating survivors.

The ACP is NOT a witness protection program that can assist with relocation or a change of identity. The ACP can be a valuable addition to a safety plan, but is not substitute for a comprehensive safety plan.

How does the ACP work?

The ACP provides participants with a substitute address and a mail-forwarding system. Participants use the ACP Substitute Address for creating or updating public records. For example, participants can (and should) place the ACP Substitute Address on their driver's license or state-issued identification card.

Participants can also use the ACP Substitute Address for personal use — just like any new address. The ACP receives participant mail sent to the ACP Substitute Address and forwards this mail to the participant's actual address.

The ACP forwards all first-class mail, including personal mail, bills, cards, letters, etc. Junk mail and magazines are not forwarded. Only packages sent through the U.S. Postal Service as first-class mail will be forwarded. The ACP may forward non-refrigerated medications with prior notification. When the ACP receives legal service of process on behalf of a participant, it is treated as if the participant received the service directly.

Who can enroll in the ACP?

- An adult who 1) has good reason to believe he or she is a victim of domestic violence and 2) fears for his or her safety.
- A parent or guardian acting on behalf of a minor child who 1) has good reason to believe that the child is a victim of domestic violence and 2) fears for the child's safety.
- A legal guardian acting on behalf of a person with a disability who 1) has good reason to believe that the person with a disability is a victim of domestic violence and 2) fears for the safety of the person with a disability.
- All other members of the ACP participant's household must also participate in the program. Each adult residing in the household must complete a separate application.

Beginning January 1, 2021, victims of sexual assault and stalking may apply to the ACP.



ACP Guidelines:

- The ACP is most effective when the applicant relocates to a new address right around the time of application.
- Enroll in the ACP by submitting a completed application to the Attorney General's office.
- The length of enrollment is four years. Participants may renew their enrollment at the end of the four-year term or voluntarily withdraw from the program at any time.
- There is no cost for participants to enroll in the ACP.
- Participants must request a Change of Address Notification Form from the ACP and submit the signed form at least seven days before moving. If a participant's living arrangements change suddenly, the participant should contact the ACP immediately and the ACP will hold the participant's mail until a Change of Address Notification Form is received.
- The Attorney General's office is prohibited from disclosing the addresses provided by a participant unless the office receives a request from law enforcement or a court order requiring the addresses to be disclosed to a specific individual.
- The ACP and other government agencies are not able to remove or delete information that already exists in public records, including addresses.
- Although state and local government agencies are required to accept the ACP Substitute Address in place of the participant's home, work, or school address, private entities may accept the substitute address.