

## 6.5.12 What is the Address Confidentiality Program?

The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) protects the address of persons helps individuals attempting to escape from actual or threatened domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, or stalking situations. Criminal Justice Affiliates, Election Officials and Protected Health Care workers may also participate in the ACP. The program provides participants with a substitute address to use in place of their actual work, home, or school addresses. ~~to interact with s~~ State and local government agencies can then respond to public records requests without disclosing the actual location of the participant. without disclosing their address or to establish new addresses in order to prevent their assailant or probable assailants from finding them. The Office of the Secretary of State administers governs the this program. The ACP works best if the program allows individuals has relocated to a location that is not already in public record.

~~to use an address designated by the secretary of state as a substitute mailing address.~~

A trained advocate provides must screen individuals with safety planning and assists with the ACP application process. before they can be accepted into the ACP. The advocate will determine if the ACP is right for the individual's circumstances and will enroll the individual in the program. For a current list of advocates trained in your community to sign people up for the ACP, go to <https://www.sos.wa.gov/address-confidentiality-program-acp> and click on the map for your location.

~~The ACP assists crime victims (specifically victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, and stalking) who have relocated to avoid further abuse. ACP helps families keep their home, work and/or school addresses secret by providing a substitute mailing address. DSHS staff must accept this the participant's substitute address and enter it into all records; never record the actual street address for work, school, or home of an ACP participant in any automated system. If someone is participating in the ACP, don't require them to disclose their actual home, work or school home address. For ACP participants, ACES letters don't include the CSO address on them to protect their geographical location. When scheduling WF appointments for these participants, all ACES letters instruct the participant to call 1-877-501-2233 or visit <https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/> to find out the location of their appointment. Don't add the CSO's address or appointment locations.~~

By itself, the ACP won't keep a person safe. To be really valuable, using the ACP substitute address must be part of a more complete and long-term safety plan.

If the individual doesn't have their authorization card, government agencies may call the ACP office (360-753-2972) to verify that the individual is an active ACP participant.