

# A Guide to the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) In Maryland

## What is the ACP?

The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) provides victims of abuse with a legal, substitute residential alternative address, which can be listed on official documentation even though that is not the address at which the victim resides.

To apply, victims must work with an application assistant to fill out the required forms and assemble a comprehensive safety plan. JCADA Victim Advocates are certified application assistants and will work with survivors to develop a strong safety plan and apply to the ACP.

## Eligibility

Eligibility for the ACP in Maryland includes:

- Current address is not already public record (JCADA Victim Advocate can clarify)
- Being a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- 18+ years old
- Resident of Maryland
- Have a comprehensive safety plan to accompany the ACP application.

## Pros and Cons of Utilizing the ACP

### Pros:

- Maryland law requires that courts accept the ACP address on documentation, as opposed to the real address
- Mail is forwarded to participant's real address
- Schools accept the ACP address on documentation
- Participants can still vote without disclosing real address
- Participants can shield the deed of their house if they are in touch with the ACP before buying the property

### Cons:

- Participation in the ACP is not confidential
- Packages cannot be forwarded by the ACP
  - Alternative options for package delivery includes using pick up hubs, a PO box, or a family member/friend's address.