

Submit completed application with supporting documents to:

Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters
101 – 4555 Kingsway
Burnaby, BC V5H 4V8

PLEASE:

Print clearly.

Do NOT include original documents (we require photocopies only).

Do NOT use staples.

Avoid Processing Delays:

Eligibility cannot be determined until you provide all required documentation.

The most common cause of processing delays is missing documents.

Applications must:

- Be complete, signed, and dated
- Include proof of income, age and rent
- Include bank information for Direct Deposit

Applications submitted without required supporting documents can be held for a maximum of 90 days.

The Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) program helps make rents more affordable for BC seniors with low to moderate incomes. SAFER provides monthly cash payments to eligible BC residents who are age 60 or over and who pay rent for their homes.

Who is eligible?

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

1. You are age 60 or older.
2. You or your spouse (if applicable) have lived in British Columbia for the full 12 months immediately preceding your application.
3. You and your spouse (if applicable) are one of the following: Canadian citizen(s); or authorized to take up permanent residence in Canada; or Convention refugee(s).
4. You pay more than 30% of your gross (before tax) monthly household income towards the rent for your home (or for the cost of pad rental for a manufactured home (trailer) that you own and occupy).
5. Your gross (before tax) monthly household income does not exceed the maximum allowable income. Maximum income varies based on household size and location in the province.
6. You do not receive income assistance through the B.C. *Employment and Assistance Act* or the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act* (excluding Medical Services only).

For more information on eligibility, please see the SAFER brochure (online at www.bchousing.org) or call the SAFER office at 604-433-2218 (or toll-free at 1-800-257-7756).

Benefit Effective Date:

The Benefit is effective the latter of:

- ➔ The first day of the month in which your application is received by our office; or
- ➔ The first day of the month in which you are deemed eligible for SAFER.

The Benefit is a non-taxable reimbursement for rent already paid, and is paid at the end of each month.

**PLEASE
PRINT
CLEARLY**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date:

Status:

File:



1. Applicant Information

Social Insurance Number	Last Name	First Name(s)	
Birth Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	Age	Sex (M/F)	Born in Canada? (Yes/No)

2. Spouse or Partner Information (if applicable)

Social Insurance Number	Last name	First name(s)	
Birth Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	Age	Sex (M/F)	Born in Canada? (Yes/No)

3. Consent For Release of Information From Canada Revenue Agency

To determine eligibility for the Shelter Aid For Elderly Renters Program, income tax information is required. You may give the Canada Revenue Agency permission to provide the required information or you may provide the tax information directly to BC Housing yourself.

SELECT Option 1 or Option 2 below. Do not check more than one box.

<input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Consent Granted	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Consent Not Granted
<p>I/We hereby consent to the release, by the Canada Revenue Agency, to BC Housing of information from my/our income tax records, whether supplied by me/us or by a third party. The information will be relevant to, and used solely for the purpose of, determining and verifying my/our eligibility, entitlement for and the general administration and enforcement of rental assistance/subsidies from BC Housing.</p> <p>This authorization is valid for the current taxation year, the two taxation years immediately preceding the current taxation year and each subsequent consecutive taxation year for which I/we have applied for rental assistance/benefit.</p> <p>I/we understand that if I/we wish to withdraw this consent, I/we may do so at any time by writing to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Manager, Applicant Services BC Housing, 1701 - 4555 Kingsway Burnaby, BC V5H 4V8.</p>	<p>I/We do not give consent for the Canada Revenue Agency to provide my/our income tax information to BC Housing. I/We understand that I/we will be responsible for providing verification of my/our income and assets in order to confirm eligibility for rental assistance/benefit.</p> <p>I/We have attached the following proof:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Copy of Notice of Assessment for the last filed tax year. ○ Copy of detailed Income Tax Return for the last filed tax year. ○ If self-employed: Copy of Statement of Business Activities and all related worksheets (only required for individuals with self-employment income, either business or professional on their tax return). <p>If you are not able to locate your income documents, please obtain a Proof of Income Statement (Option C print) from www.cra.gc.ca/myaccount or contact the Canada Revenue Agency at 1-800 959-8281.</p>

Applicant:

Print Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Spouse:

Print Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

4. Residency Information

4a. Have you lived in B.C. for the past twelve months? Yes No

If no, when did you move to B.C.? _____

How long have you lived in Canada? _____

4b. Please list your address(es) for the last 12 months:

Address(es)	From Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	To Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	Landlord Name	Landlord Phone #
Current address				

4c. If you or your spouse were not born in Canada, please complete the following:

Name	Date moved to Canada (dd/mm/yyyy)	Current status in Canada	Sponsored Immigrants Only	
			Name of Sponsor	End Date of Sponsorship Agreement

5. Household Information - Check all options that apply

<input type="checkbox"/> Living Alone	<input type="checkbox"/> Living with a spouse or common-law partner
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharing with another adult(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other, describe: _____

5a. List all other persons who are living with you. (if required attach additional names on a separate sheet)

Last Name	Given Names	Relationship to Applicant	Birth Date* (dd/mm/yyyy)	Age	Sex* (M/F)

*Birth Date and Sex not required for children aged 25 or older or any other adult(s) living in the household.

5b. (Optional) Do you or anyone in your household identify as being an Indigenous person of Canada?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please select the option(s) that best describes your Indigenous identity:
<input type="checkbox"/> First Nations	<input type="checkbox"/> Métis <input type="checkbox"/> Inuit <input type="checkbox"/> Other

9. Income Information

9a. Have any income sources reported on your tax return stopped or permanently decreased? Yes No

If yes, please describe: _____

9b. Did you stop working in the last 24 months? Yes No

If yes, when did you last work? (Month/Year) _____

9c. Do you plan to seek employment in the next year? Yes No

9d. Have you (or your spouse) received income assistance from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction in the past 24 months? Yes No

If yes, when was the last payment received? (Month/Year) _____

9e. Did you (or your spouse) receive a T5007 Income Tax slip from the BC Bus Pass Program last year?

Yes No

If yes, include a copy of the T-slip and this amount will be excluded from your income.

9f. Did you receive any income in the last year that does not appear on your tax return (family support, on-reserve employment, foreign pensions, etc.)? Yes No

If yes, please describe and attach supporting documentation: _____

9g. Do you have any income from self-employment? Yes No

If yes, please attach a Statement of Income and Expenses from last year's Income Tax return and all related worksheets (T2125)

9h. Current Monthly Income (for both applicant and spouse, if applicable)

List all current Income Sources including any regular ongoing funds received from non-taxable Sources: (Employment, Employment Insurance, Pensions both Foreign and Domestic, Support Income, On-Reserve Employment, Seasonal Employment, Family Support, and all other sources)	APPLICANT	SPOUSE
Old Age Security, Guaranteed Income Supplement, and Allowance for the Survivor (if applicable)	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

→ Note: See attached checklist for details of acceptable proof of income.

NOTE:

Proof of income must be provided before this application can be processed. Please attach:

- Income Tax Information, either consent for release of tax information from Canada Revenue Agency (CRA); or Copies of last year's Income Tax Notice of Assessment AND detailed Income Tax return; and
- If self-employed, statement of Income and Expenses from last year's Income Tax return and related worksheets (form T2125); and
- If you declared bankruptcy in the last two years, both the pre- and post-bankruptcy returns; and
- If any income reported on your tax return have stopped or permanently decreased, proof of current income from all sources; and
- Proof of any non-taxable income.

Purpose of this form:

This form collects specific information from applicants (the person(s) filling out the form) to determine eligibility for assistance through the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) program. The information is collected in accordance with section 26(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. If you have any questions about the collection of your information, please call 604-433-1711 and ask to speak to BC Housing’s Privacy Officer or write to 4555 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4V8.

10. Declaration and Consent

PLEASE READ AND SIGN

I/We declare:

- This is my/our application and all the information in it is true, correct and complete in every respect; fully discloses my/our income from all sources; and accurately represents my current living circumstances.

I/We permit:

- BC Housing to verify any of the information I/we have provided in this application in order to access my/our eligibility for benefits under the Shelter Aid For Elderly Renters Program.

I/We acknowledge and understand that:

- It is my/our responsibility to promptly provide, or cause to be provided, all information and documentation that is reasonably requested by BC Housing to determine my/our eligibility for benefits and/or for audit purposes. I/we are responsible to immediately inform BC Housing of any changes in my/our address, rent, marital status, family size, or the people sharing my/our accommodation so that my/our benefit can be adjusted accordingly.
- Failure to report changes in my/our address or household composition may result in an interruption or suspension of benefits and may also result in an overpayment, which I/we will be required to repay.
- Failure to report if I/we begin to receive income assistance through the Ministry responsible for the B.C. *Employment and Assistance Act* or the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act* will result in an overpayment of benefits which I/we will be required to repay.
- Benefits paid under this agreement is a reimbursement of actual rent paid and if I/we fail to pay the full rental amount BC Housing may immediately stop payment of benefits and I/we agree to return to BC Housing all benefits paid for periods in which the full rental amount was not paid.
- BC Housing will audit some Shelter Aid For Elderly Renters Program applications and benefits may be adjusted if the audit reveals errors or omissions in any information.
- Misrepresentation of the information provided, in writing or by omission, may result in recovery of benefits in addition to any other remedies available in law or equity.
- If I/we wish to withdraw this Declaration and Consent, I/we may do so at any time in writing to BC Housing; however, withdrawal will result in my/our being ineligible for assistance through the Shelter Aid For Elderly Renters Program.

Signature of Applicant	Date	Signature of Spouse (if applicable)	Date
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Next Steps

- 1. Sign & Date Application.**
- 2. Attach Supporting Documents:** (Do not send original documents)
Review the attached checklist for more information on supporting documents.
- 3. Submit Application:**
Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters, 101 – 4555 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC V5H 4V8

NOTE: The most common cause of processing delays is missing documentation. Applications submitted without all required supporting documents can be held for a maximum of 90 days.

SAFER Direct Deposit

Assistance is paid by direct deposit to your account on the last working day of each month. The account must be in the name of the applicant and/or spouse (if applicable). The information requested will provide BC Housing with the required financial institution, transit and account numbers needed for processing automatic payments to your account.

Please provide one of the following:

- A printed, personalized blank cheque marked VOID; or
- A Preauthorized Debit Form provided by your financial institution; or
- Have your financial institution complete the information below:

Name of Applicant

Have the following completed by your financial institution if you are not attaching a void cheque or a Preauthorized Debit form.		
Transit Number	Bank Number	Account Number
Name(s) on the account		Phone number of financial institution
Financial Institution Stamp:		

Proof of Rent - Landlord Declaration

Not required if a Tenancy Agreement or Rent Receipt has been provided with application form.

I _____ confirm that I am renting _____ BC Landlord / Building Manager Name (Print) Rental address (Unit #, Street #, City)
To _____ since _____ Print Tenant's Name(s) Date tenancy started (MM/DD/YY)
The Rent is \$ _____ per <input type="checkbox"/> Month <input type="checkbox"/> Week <input type="checkbox"/> Night
Heat included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Landlord Signature _____ Landlord Phone # _____ Date: _____



Please return to:

**SAFER Department
BC Housing
#101 – 4555 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC V5H 4V8**

Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) - Application Checklist

Incomplete applications **will experience processing delays**. Before submitting your application form please review the following to make sure that all required information is included.

- Applications are effective the latter of the month in which they are received by the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters program or the month in which an applicant is deemed eligible.
- Incomplete applications will experience processing delays and can be held for up to 90 days to allow time to gather and submit missing documentation.
- After 90 days, incomplete applications will be cancelled and the applicant will be required to complete a new application. The effective date will be adjusted to the month in which the new application is received.

Do NOT include original documents (we require photocopies only)

Identification and Residency (Required for applicant and spouse, if applicable)

If you are receiving Old Age Security, attach a copy of one of the following:

- Birth or baptismal certificate, Passport, Driver's License or a BC ID Card.

If you are not in receipt of Old Age Security, please attach:

- If born in Canada, Copy of Canadian birth or baptismal certificate, or Passport.
- If not born in Canada, documentation showing date of birth as well as your status in Canada and that you are not under private sponsorship. For more information, please call 604-433-2218 or toll-free at 1-800-257-7756.

Power of Attorney (If applicable)

- Attach Power of Attorney authorizing documents.

Direct Deposit

- Attach a personalized blank cheque marked VOID to the application form; or
- Attach a Preauthorized Debit Form provided by your financial institution; or
- Have your financial institution complete the SAFER Direct Deposit section of this application.

Proof of Rent

- Rent Receipt showing address, rent amount, date and landlord name; or
- Copy of recent Rent Increase Notice; or
- Copy of Lease or Tenancy Agreement (if signed within the past 12 months); or
- Have your landlord complete the Proof of Rent - Landlord Declaration section of this application.

Income Tax Information (Required for applicant and spouse, if applicable)

- Provide consent for release of tax information from Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) on page 2 of this application; or
- Provide copies of last year's Income Tax Notice of Assessment **AND** detailed Income Tax return (include all pages); or T-slips from all income sources.

Note: If **bankruptcy** was declared within the last two taxation years, provide copies of the Income Tax Notices of Assessment and detailed Income Tax returns for both the pre- and post-bankruptcy.

Proof of Self-Employment (If applicable)

If last year's annual income included income from **self-employment**, attach:

- Statement of Income and Expenses from last year's Income Tax return and all related worksheets (form T2125).

Proof of Current Income (If applicable)

If any income reported on your tax return have stopped or permanently decreased, attach:

- Proof of **CURRENT** gross monthly income, from all sources (cheque stubs, letter from employer bank statements showing direct deposits or other income statement).

BC Bus Pass T5007 Tax Slip (If applicable)

If you (or your spouse, if applicable) received a T5 slip from the BC Bus Pass Program last year, attach:

- The T5007 tax slip that indicates the bus pass benefit amount.

For assistance call 604-433-2218 or toll-free at 1-800-257-7756 from outside the Lower Mainland.