



Enacted by the General Assembly in 2016 and

administered by the Secretary of State's office, Safe at Home is an address confidentiality program that helps survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, stalking, rape and sexual battery shield their personal information from public record.

This program provides abuse survivors with a safe and secure way to participate in our democracy with ease.

FAQs

- **Make Additional Safety Plans:**
Safe at Home is not intended to take the place of a safety plan, but rather is only part of a larger overall safety plan that survivors should develop with an advocate.
- **Not Automatic:**
Enrolling in Safe at Home does not automatically shield a program participant's address from public records.
- **Mail Delay:**
A program participant's mail may be delayed several days.
- **Voting:**
A program participant with a confidential voter registration record should vote only by absentee ballot by mail.
- **Personal Information Update:**
A program participant must notify Safe at Home of an update to their information within 30 days of a change.
- **Program Length:**
Certification lasts for four years. Program participants who are still eligible may contact an application assistant about applying for recertification.

Safe at Home

SafeAtHomeOhio.gov | 614.995.2255

SafeAtHome@OhioSoS.gov |

PO Box 16395 • Columbus, OH 43216



OHIO'S ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS OF CRIME

SafeAtHomeOhio.gov

WHAT

is Safe at Home?

Safe at Home (SAH) is an address confidentiality program that provides the following services:

Substitute Address

Safe at Home assigns program participants a substitute address. A program participant may request that a governmental entity use the substitute address. A state of Ohio governmental entity **must** accept the substitute address at the program participant's request. A program participant may also request that a private entity use the substitute address, but the law does not require a private entity to accept it.

Mail Forwarding

Safe at Home will forward all qualifying mail to each program participant every day that the Secretary of State's office is open.

Confidential Voter Registration

Safe at Home program participants may register to vote with a confidential voter registration record. The registration information of a program participant with a confidential voter registration record will not be accessible to the public.

WHO

qualifies for Safe at Home?

An individual who is a survivor of, or who lives in the same household as a survivor of:

- domestic violence
- human trafficking
- stalking
- rape
- sexual battery

Safe at Home will not be as effective if a program participant fears that the abuser is aware of or could know where the program participant lives. The program is most effective when the program participant has just moved or will move in the immediate future.

Safe at Home is not:

- A witness protection program.
- Capable of shielding a program participant from legal obligations.
- A complete safety plan.

HOW

do I apply for Safe at Home?

1. Find an Application Assistant certified by the Secretary of State's office:

SafeAtHomeOhio.gov
614.995.2255

2. Visit an Application Assistant

Complete an application, return it to the Safe at Home office at:

Ohio Secretary of State
PO Box 16395
Columbus, OH 43216

3. You will be contacted by Safe at Home staff

If certified, you will receive a participant packet and card in the mail.

4. Begin using your new substitute address.

