

We are reaching out to let you know about recent improvements to BC Housing's [Rental Assistance Program \(RAP\)](#) and [Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters \(SAFER\)](#) program.

RAP and SAFER help make rents affordable for low-income families and seniors by providing rent assistance in the private market.

Starting April 1, 2025, the Province [expanded eligibility](#) for the RAP and SAFER programs as well as increased the average benefit for existing recipients.

**Improvements to RAP include:**

- Increased the household income limit for eligibility from \$40,000 to \$60,000 (before taxes). This change is expected to nearly double the number of families eligible for support from around 3,200 to nearly 6,000;
- Increased the average family supplement for existing recipients from \$400 per month to \$700 per month;
- Reviewing and amending rent ceilings, which help determine the amount of rental assistance for applicants, annually; and
- Removed the requirement for employment income. This will result in low-income families, who are not receiving income or disability assistance, being able to receive rental assistance if other eligibility requirements are met.

**Enhancements to SAFER include:**

- Increased the household income limit for eligibility from \$37,240 to \$40,000. This change is expected to benefit up to 1,600 more seniors, and
- Increased the average supplement by nearly 30%, bringing the average monthly subsidy for existing seniors to \$337.

Please help us spread the word in your networks so more people can access these important resources.

For more information about the RAP and SAFER programs, including eligibility requirements and how to apply, please visit:

- [www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/rental-assistance-programs/RAP](http://www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/rental-assistance-programs/RAP)
- [www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/rental-assistance-programs/SAFER](http://www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/rental-assistance-programs/SAFER)

Sincerely,

BC Housing Community Relations Team

