

# Proof of Cohabitation

If you are applying for Special Priority, you must prove that you are living with the person who abused you, or that you have lived with them in the past three months. This is called Proof of Cohabitation.

One or more of these documents can be used as Proof of Cohabitation:

- A copy of your lease or utility/service bills: gas, hydro, water, phone
- Tenancy documents: rent increase notice, eviction notice, etc.
- Letter from a registered daycare provider
- Letter confirming cohabitation from a lawyer
- Letter from a family doctor, dentist, veterinarian or a minister of religion
- Letter stamped by a Notary Public
- Paystub from an employer with the common address
- Employee benefits – current copy of the health and life insurance statement
- Prescription receipt showing the name and address
- Letter from public health nurse, community worker, and or a Children’s Aid Society, Catholic Children’s Aid Society, Native Child and Family Services or Jewish Family & Child Service worker; who has visited the applicant in their home and can bear witness that they saw the alleged abuser residing at the common address
- Mortgage Agreement or Annual Mortgage Statement
- Driver’s License

An official letter or statement from a government or government agency office such as:

- Income Tax Assessment or Property Tax Assessment
- Public Guardian Trustee
- A post-secondary institution, Public School Board or Catholic School Board
- Paystub for Workers Safety Insurance Board
- Employment Insurance statement
- Copy of the Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support monthly statement\*
- Immigration Canada Landing documents showing sponsorship agreement
- Court documents, such as small claim settlement agreement, custody and access papers, divorce decree, probation order or notice to appear
- Recognizance of Bail or a Restraining Order that states the abuser’s name and common address where the abuser and abused are/were living together
- A police officer confirming cohabitation stating the common address, the names of both parties, and the timeframe when the officer was called to the common address
- Federal, provincial or municipal election notice of enumeration
- Landlord and Tenant Board documents
- Statement of Live Birth showing the full common address and the abuser’s name

If you need support with this process, we can connect you with the YWCA for more help.

You can appeal decisions that are made about your priority status. If needed, the information about how to do this will be included in the decision letter that you receive.

If you are on Social Assistance, the **consent declaration and release** that you signed will give us authorization to check any Social Assistance database.

## Contact Us

Housing Access Peterborough (HAP)

Phone 705-748-8830 or toll-free 1-855-738-3755 or Email [hapinfo@peterborough.ca](mailto:hapinfo@peterborough.ca)

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