



6

Tips After Applying to BC Housing

Obtaining seniors subsidized housing may take a **significant amount of time**. The median wait time was **two years**, which is an increase of 19% from the previous year. Wait times continue to be longest in Vancouver Coastal Health (2.5 years) and shortest in Interior Health (1.4 years) and Northern Health (1.6 years). All regions of B.C. have a median wait time in excess of one year (BC Seniors Advocate). But there are some actions you can do to ensure you stay on the BC Housing list and to try and speed up the process...



Always keep all your BC Housing correspondence

1

Maintain An Active Application

To keep your application active you must connect with BC Housing every 4-5 months. You can update your application by including your name, file number and any new information. Stay in contact in one of three ways:

- In person: to a BC Housing office
- By mail: The Housing Registry, BC Housing, 101-4555 Kingsway, Burnaby BC, V5H 4V8
- By phone: 604-433-2218
- Toll-free: 1-800-257-7756
- By fax: 604-439-4729

Note: Emails are not accepted

2

Respond to Correspondence



If BC Housing doesn't hear from you, they will put your application on hold and mail you a reminder card. You must respond to the card. If you don't, your application will be cancelled, and you will need to reapply.

3

Directly Reach Out to Housing Providers



Regularly phone or mail email housing providers to tell them you're interested in one of their buildings. Many housing providers, (although part of BC Housing) maintain their own lists. If you know of seniors housing providers in your neighbourhood contact them every couple of months to ask if they have any vacancies and express your interest.

4

Search Local Listings



It is also helpful to download a list of housing providers in your area so you can contact them. You can download it from <https://www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/rental-housing/housing-listings>. If you don't have a computer or a printer we can help you get the list.

5

Crisis Situations & Income Changes



If your situation changes or your income changes you should contact BC Housing. For instance if you are at risk of becoming homeless you should contact BC Housing right away. If you live in subsidized housing, including a co-op, be sure to tell your housing provider about income

6

Be Realistic



If you are offered a place from BC Housing and it is not ideal, you should think about whether or not you could live there. Given the long waiting lists this may be the best alternative, but it totally depends on your personal circumstances.