

What is an Accommodation Risk Assessment (ARA)?

To be released to board ordered parole, or to be re-released into the community following suspension of your parole order – the Board must be satisfied that you have suitable accommodation.

An Accommodation Risk Assessment (ARA) is the process by which the home or location you wish to reside at is considered. Once you submit your ARA request, Community Corrections will review your proposed accommodation and then make a recommendation to the Board.

The Board will then consider the recommendation (and any other relevant factors) and make an independent decision regarding the suitability of your proposed accommodation for your release to parole.

How do I apply for an ARA?

To apply for an ARA you need to complete the Form 176 – Accommodation Risk Assessment Request. Once you have completed the ARA Request, please submit the form to the Sentence Management Unit within your correctional centre.

How long will the assessment take?

Once submitted, Community Corrections has three (3) weeks to consider your request and make a recommendation to the Board.

What is considered in the assessment process?

Both Community Corrections and the Board will consider a number of factors in assessing whether your proposed accommodation is suitable or not.

Factors that are commonly considered include:

- your criminal history including the nature of your offending;
- your relationship with the resident/s including the length of time you have known the person;
- the number of people within the home, whether there are children residing at the address, whether you have your own room or propose sharing with another;
- location of the property and your ability to access services including Community Corrections office;
- the resident's willingness to receive visits from or contact from a Community Corrections officer;
- whether the sponsor is aware of your criminal convictions;
- whether there are any DVO or other court orders prohibiting you residing with the sponsor or any other occupant;
- whether the proposed accommodation provides a rehabilitation service;
- any concerns regarding the location of victims;

Please note that each ARA will be assessed on its merits based on your particular set of circumstances. Therefore the factors relevant to your assessment may be different to another prisoner.