Office of the PublicAdvocate

Government of Western Australia
Department of Justice

Who appoints guardians and administrators?

The State Administrative Tribunal appoints guardians and administrators. To apply for a guardian or administrator to be appointed for a person, you need to complete an application online via the eCourts portal: ecourts.justice.wa.gov.au

If you need assistance to complete an application, please contact the State Administrative Tribunal.

State Administrative Tribunal

Telephone: (08) 9219 3111 or 1300 306 017
eCourts portal: ecourts.justice.wa.gov.au
Website: www.sat.justice.wa.gov.au

Planning for your future

You can choose who would have the legal power to make decisions on your behalf if you lost capacity by completing an Enduring Power of Attorney form *(for property and financial decisions)* and an Enduring Power of Guardianship form *(for personal, lifestyle and treatment decisions).*

For more information visit the website:
www.publicadvocate.wa.gov.au

For more information:

Scan QR Code to access
The Office of the
Public Advocate App

Or visit the website:
www.publicadvocate.wa.gov.au

Office of the Public Advocate

The Public Advocate is an independent statutory officer appointed under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* to protect and promote the human rights of people with decision-making disabilities and to reduce their risk of exploitation and abuse.

If you are worried about someone who has a decision-making disability and think they may need a guardian or administrator, you can contact the Office of the Public Advocate's Telephone Advisory Service (TAS) on 1300 858 455. You can call TAS between 9.00am and 4.30pm on weekdays to speak to an advisory officer, or at anytime to hear recorded information on guardianship, administration, enduring power of attorney and enduring power of guardianship.

Office of the PublicAdvocate

PO Box 6293, East Perth WA 6892
Telephone Advisory Service: 1300 858 455
Email: opa@justice.wa.gov.au
Website: www.publicadvocate.wa.gov.au

For alternative formats of this brochure, contact the Office of the Public Advocate.

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Office of the PublicAdvocate

Office of the Public Advocate

Protecting and promoting the human rights of adults with decision-making disabilities

Office of the PublicAdvocate

Staff at the Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) provide help and support to adults who have a disability that affects their capacity to make decisions in their own best interests.

The Office of the Public Advocate can help by:

- providing information and training on how to protect the human rights of people with decision-making disabilities
- investigating concerns about the wellbeing of an adult with a decision-making disability and investigating specified applications made to the State Administrative Tribunal, to assist the State Administrative Tribunal to determine whether a guardian or administrator is required
- providing guardianship services when there is no one else available, suitable or willing to act as the person's guardian.

Who are guardianship services for?

These services are provided for people aged 18 years and over who are having difficulty making decisions because they have:

- dementia
- mental illness
- acquired brain injury
- intellectual disability.

With an ageing population and an increasing prevalence of dementia, the number of Western Australians who need help to make reasoned decisions is steadily increasing.

Appointing guardians and administrators

What is a guardian?

A guardian is someone who is appointed by the State Administrative Tribunal to make personal decisions for an individual with a decision-making disability. These decisions could be about:

- where a person should live
- what services they should receive
- what medical, surgical and dental treatment the person might need.

A guardian can be a family member or friend. The Public Advocate can be appointed as guardian if the State Administrative Tribunal is satisfied that no one else is available, suitable and willing..

What is an administrator?

An administrator is someone who is appointed by the State Administrative Tribunal to make financial and property decisions for a person with a decision-making disability. The administrator may be a family member or friend. The Public Trustee can be appointed by the State Administrative Tribunal if there is no one else available, suitable and willing.