

Fast Facts on Guardianship

Guardianship is a legal tool that grants a parent or other adult the legal authority to make decisions for a legally disabled adult.

Terms you might hear

Guardian means any individual, agency, or corporation appointed by the court to have full care, custody, and control of a disabled person and to manage his financial resources.

Limited guardian means a guardian who possesses fewer than all of the legal powers and duties of a full guardian, and whose powers and duties have been specifically enumerated by court order.

Disabled means a legal, not a medical disability, and is measured by functional incapacities. It refers to any person 14 or older who is unable to make informed decisions with respect to his personal affairs or financial resources.

Conservator means an individual, agency, or corporation appointed by the court to manage the financial resources of a disabled person. A conservator can be an alternative to guardianship.

Limited conservator means an individual, agency, or corporation appointed by the court to assist in managing the financial resources of a partially disabled person and whose powers and duties have been specifically enumerated by court order. A limited conservator can be an alternative to guardianship.

Respondent means an individual alleged to be a partially disabled or disabled person.

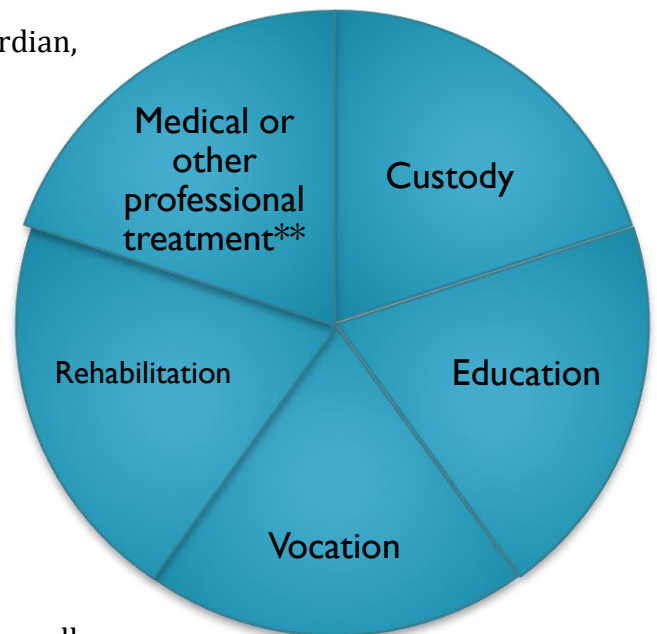
Ward means a person for whom a limited guardian, guardian, limited conservator, or conservator has been appointed.

When is a Guardian needed?

A guardian may be needed when a person With a disability cannot make manage his Or her own financial resources or care for Him or herself.

Duties and Responsibilities

A guardian may be responsible for many areas in a person's life. Custody, education, vocation, rehabilitation, and medical or professional treatment** are all important areas to address



****Except: abortion, sterilization, psychosurgery, removal or bodily organ or limb without prior court approval.**