



About your OPA guardian

The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) decides if someone should have a guardian.

We have been chosen by VCAT to be your guardian.

A guardian is a person who is chosen to make important decisions about things like your health, the supports you receive or where you live.

Who we are

We are the Office of the Public Advocate (OPA). We work to promote and protect the rights and interests of people with disability.

An OPA guardian's job is to:

- support you to make your own decisions where possible
- make decisions for you.

Why you have an OPA guardian

VCAT may have chosen us to be your guardian because family, friends, neighbours or people who support you believe that you may need help with making some decisions.

VCAT chooses what type of decisions your guardian can make and how long you will have a guardian. This information is in your guardianship order.

What you can expect

As your guardian, we will:

- listen to you
- find out what you want
- work to get you care and support you need
- make decisions, which could include:
 - where you live
 - services you may need
 - who has access to you
 - health care
 - legal matters.

You have the right to:

- take part in decisions about your life
- be told what the decision will be
- be treated with respect and dignity
- live free from abuse, neglect and exploitation.

If you don't agree

If you think you don't need a guardian, you can apply to VCAT to have your guardianship order looked at again at any time.

If you are not happy with your guardian, you can:

- speak to your guardian or their Team Leader
- make a complaint. Find more information in the 'Feedback and complaints' factsheet available on the OPA website.

Next steps

We will contact you within 6 weeks. We can answer questions and give you more information.

If you have any questions or need help, please contact us at any time.

Contact us

Contact OPA by phone, email, website or letter.



1300 309 337
Weekdays, 9 am – 5 pm



National Relay Service: 133 677



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