



TRANSITION RESOURCE SHEET: GUARDIANSHIP

Guardianship Guides

Autism Consortium Transitioning to Adulthood Manual

→ Guardianship and Guardianship Flowchart tabs

A clear and comprehensive guide which provides an overview of guardianship, explains alternatives to full or limited guardianship, and lists the procedures and processes to follow to obtain guardianship.

Website: <http://www.autismconsortium.org/families/transitioning-to-adulthood>

Exceptional Lives Guardianship Guide

An interactive guide that can help you make decisions about whether full guardianship, limited guardianship, or an alternative is right for your family.

Website: <http://info.exceptionallives.org/exceptional-lives-guardianship-guide>

Contacts for Legal Assistance Regarding Guardianship

Disability Law Center

A center providing legal advocacy on disability issues that promote the fundamental right of all people with disabilities to participate fully and equally in the social and economic life in Massachusetts.

Phone: (617) 723-8455 | Website: <http://dlc-ma.org/>

Legal Advocacy and Resource Center

A hotline providing low-income residents of the Greater Boston area with free legal advice and referrals.

Phone: (617) 371-1234 | Website: <http://larcma.org/>

Mass Legal Services

A database of legal services and information to help individuals find legal help.

Website: <http://www.masslegalservices.org/FindLegalAid>

Medical-Legal Partnership

A network of lawyers and paralegals that provides free legal assistance to eligible patients treated at participating health care institutions, including BMC. Contact your provider for a referral.

Website: <http://www.mlpboston.org/>

The following Probate & Family Courthouses offer free legal help clinics to families who qualify. Lawyers and law students can assist with completing, reviewing, and submitting applications for guardianship. Families should have all supplemental paperwork (assessments, medical reports, etc.) completed before attending the clinic and should bring these with them to the courthouse.

- **Suffolk County Probate & Family Court in Boston**

Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the 3rd Floor of the Brooke Courthouse in the hallway outside the Register's office.

- **Middlesex County Probate & Family Court in Cambridge**

Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the 2nd Floor of the Courthouse in East Cambridge.

- **Norfolk County Probate & Family Court in Canton**

Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Register's office.

Additional Resources and References

- http://www.masslegalservices.org/system/files/library/vlp_guardianship_adults_brochure.pdf
- <http://www.massguardianshipassociation.org/information/guardianship-of-an-adult-2/>
- <http://www.massguardianshipassociation.org/pdf/FINALHandbookforGuardians.pdf>
- <http://www.mass.gov/courts/selfhelp/guardians/guardianship-ip.html>