

## Making decisions on the adult's participation in education or training

As a guardian, you may have been granted the authority to decide whether the adult should participate in any educational, vocational, or other training and, if so, the nature and extent and related matters. Please check your Court order.

Determination of what the adult will do with his or her life from now on requires information about the adult's interest and training needs. The guardian needs to consider what new independence skills should be targeted, as well as what skills need to be maintained.

### Where does a guardian get this information?

Information about the adult's interests and training needs could come from the adult, as well as from others who know or provide services to him/her.

Good sources of information include community agencies which provide services to others with needs that are similar to those of the adult.

### On what basis should a guardian make this decision?

A guardian must make decisions:

- in the adult's best interests;
- diligently;
- in good faith;
- in a way that encourages the adult to become, to the extent possible, capable of making decisions for themselves; and
- in the least intrusive and least restrictive manner that, in the opinion of the guardian, is likely to be effective.

The final decision on educational, vocational, or other training will take into account questions such as:

- What are the adult's needs and abilities?
- What are the adult's interests and training needs?
- What are the goals of the adult?
- What is the purpose or focus of the training programs?

- What are the pros and cons of each program, and what compromises come with each?
- How can the cons and compromises be dealt with (perhaps with a move to a different training program in the future)?
- What would each alternative do for the adult?
- What would each alternative lead to in the future?

Educational, vocational, and training programs usually have a beginning and an end. Each decision in this area will lead to another decision.

### For more information

The Office of the Public Guardian welcomes the opportunity to speak with you!

**Toll-free Help Line:** 1-877-427-4525

Monday to Friday (8:15 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

**Our website:** [www.seniors.alberta.ca/opg](http://www.seniors.alberta.ca/opg)

