

Passaic County Surrogate's Court



*Honorable Zoila Cassanova, Esq.
Surrogate Judge*

Guardianship

Guardianship is the legal right to make both medical & financial decisions for someone else.

Why consider Guardianship?

- At age 18 an individual is considered his/her own legal person
- At age 18 all healthcare and financial decisions for the individual can only be carried out by him/herself
- You are a parent of an 18-year-old child that is developmentally disabled and unable to make their own decisions

What is required to file for guardianship of a developmentally disabled individual?

- Verified Complaint to Appoint Guardian(s) of the Person and/or Estate
- Two Certifications of Physician or Psychologist
or one Certification of Physician and copy of the IEP no more than 2 years old
- Certification of Assets (if seeking guardianship of the estate only)
- Certification Pursuant to Court Rule 4:5-1
- Certification of Criminal and Civil Judgment History
- Order Fixing Guardianship Hearing Date and Appointing Attorney of the Alleged Incapacitated Person
- Check or money order for \$200 made payable to The Passaic County Surrogate Court

Do you have any other questions?

Please call or email the Guardianship Court Clerk at 973-881-4760 or guardianshipclerk@passaiccountynj.org