



Mental Hygiene Law Article 81 Guardian

Personal Needs Guardian



Your role. Their well-being.



As a Personal Needs Guardian, you play a vital role in supporting the health, safety, and well-being of the person you serve.
Thank you for your commitment to their care and quality of life.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES



Health Care

- Coordinate medical, dental, vision, and mental health care.
- Monitor providers and treatment.
- Make health care decisions authorized by the Court when needed.



Living Arrangements

- Arrange for safe and appropriate housing.
- Ensure a clean, safe, and comfortable living environment.
- Make changes to living arrangements when needed.



Daily Needs

- Provide food, clothing, and other necessities.
- Ensure access to transportation.
- Address personal care and hygiene.



Social and Emotional Well-Being

- Encourage relationships with family and friends.
- Promote social, recreational, and spiritual activities.
- Support mental health and overall well-being.



Safety and Protection

- Protect from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- Ensure a safe environment.
- Report concerns to appropriate authorities.



Decision-Making and Advocacy

- Make personal needs decisions authorized by the Court.
- Respect the person's wishes and preferences, so long as it's in their best interest.
- Advocate for their rights and best interests.



REMEMBER

- ✓ Act in the person's best interests.
- ✓ Respect their dignity, rights, and preferences.
- ✓ Keep the person informed and involved.
- ✓ Encourage independence whenever possible.
- ✓ Document your actions and decisions.



REPORTING REQUIREMENTS



Initial Report
Must be filed within 90 days of issuance of the Guardian's Commission.



Annual Report
Must be filed by May 31 of each year until the guardianship ends.



Final Report
Must be filed when the guardianship ends.



NEED ASSISTANCE?



Guardian Assistance Office

☎ 347-296-1948

✉ GAO@nycourts.gov

Providing guidance and resources
to help guardians meet their
responsibilities.



A PERSONAL NEEDS GUARDIAN MAY NOT:



Make financial decisions unless also appointed as Property Management Guardian.



Exceed the authority granted by the Court.



Ignore the person's wishes or preferences, so long as it's in their best interest.



Disregard the person's rights, dignity, or well-being.



Force medication or medical treatment over the person's objections.