

Virginia Guardian Training

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Updated: August 1, 2025

Q: Why is training required?

A: The Virginia General Assembly passed [legislation](#) in 2024 that requires the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) to develop and implement training for guardians.

Q: Who is required to take the Virginia Guardian Training?

A: All guardians of incapacitated adults and any skilled professionals retained by a guardian to perform duties on behalf of the guardian must complete the training.

Q: What is a skilled professional?

A: A skilled professional is someone retained or hired by a guardian to perform guardianship duties on behalf of the guardian. For example, if a guardian hires a professional to conduct visits every 120 days on the guardian's behalf, the professional is considered a skilled professional for the purposes of the Virginia Guardian Training.

Q: I am the guardian for my sister, and she lives in a facility. Are the facility staff required to take the training?

A: No. Unless facility staff are performing guardian duties on behalf of a guardian, then professionals providing a service to the incapacitated adult are not considered skilled professionals for the purposes of the Virginia Guardian Training.

Q: I am the parent and guardian of my adult child. Do I need to complete the training?

A: Yes. Under the new legislation, all guardians must complete the training.

Q: I am a co-guardian. Do both guardians need to complete the training?

A: Yes. All guardians must complete the training.

Q: When do I need to complete the training?

A: Guardians appointed on or after July 1, 2025, must complete the training within 120 days after qualification. Guardians appointed on or before June 30, 2025, must complete the training no later than January 1, 2027. The same dates apply to skilled professionals.

Q: How long is the training?

A: While users work at their own pace, the training will take approximately 60 minutes to complete. DARS recommends completing the training in one sitting when possible as your progress may not be saved if you exit the training before completing it.

Q: How much does the training cost?

A: It is free for all users.

Virginia Guardian Training

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Updated: August 1, 2025

Q: How do I access the training?

A: The training is available online and can be accessed at your convenience. Visit the Virginia Guardian Training webpage: <https://www.dars.virginia.gov/dcl/guardiantraining.htm> and complete the brief Guardian Training Registration Form. Once you submit the registration form, a link will appear that will take you to the training.

Screenshot from the Virginia Guardian Training webpage:

How do I complete the training?

Please complete the registration form below to access the training. You will be redirected to the online training once you complete the registration form. The registration form must be completed each time you wish to access the training. The training will take approximately 60 minutes to complete. If you exit out of the training before you finish, your progress may not be saved.

Guardian Training Registration Form >

Q: Do I need to submit a copy of the certificate of completion anywhere?

A: No. DARS recommends you keep a copy for your records. The “Report of Guardian for an Incapacitated Person” form, often referred to as the “Annual Report,” was updated and released on July 1, 2025. It can be found [here](#). The guardian will indicate their training status on the form when the next Annual Report is due.

Q: I am not a guardian or skilled professional, but I’d like to learn more about the role of guardians and about serving as a guardian. Can I complete the training?

A: Yes, the training is open and available to anyone.

Q: Are there additional resources available to help guardians in Virginia?

A: Yes! Please visit the Virginia Guardian Training [Resource page](#) for tools, guides, and links to other webpages related to guardianship.

Q: What if I have questions or need assistance with the Virginia Guardian Training?

A: Please contact Ellie Rest, Guardian Training Program Coordinator, by calling 757-634-2918 or emailing ellie.rest@dars.virginia.gov or guardianship@dars.virginia.gov.