

DEAKIN LAW CLINIC GUARDIANSHIP SUPPORT SERVICE

The Deakin Law Clinic Guardianship Support Service (the **Service**) is a new duty lawyer's service operating in the Guardianship List at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (**VCAT**).

The Service operates on a Wednesday at Level 2 of the William Cooper Justice Centre, 223 William Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000. Its office hours are 9:00am to 3:30pm.

Who can access the Service?

The Service only assists people who are the subject of a guardianship or administration application. We do not assist those wishing to become a guardian or administrator or other interested parties.

We assist clients who cannot otherwise afford legal services and, while we focus on clients who are under the age of 65, we are willing to assist all eligible clients.

What does the Service do?

The principal aim of the Service is to provide clients with the opportunity to be heard in respect of the application that has been made in relation to them.

The Service provides one off legal advice and, where appropriate, representation for clients. This may include:

- advising clients about the nature of the application made;
- seeking adjournments of matters so that clients may have an opportunity to receive legal advice; or
- appearing on behalf of clients so that the client's views can be put to the Tribunal.

In appropriate cases, Deakin Law Clinic will take on ongoing casework for clients. In other cases, referrals will be provided to other legal and support services.

How to get assistance from the Service

Potential clients can access the Service in one of two ways:

1. By dropping into the Service on the day of their hearing
2. By making an appointment in advance by emailing law-clinic@deakin.edu.au or calling {03} 9244 3000

About Deakin Law Clinic

Deakin Law Clinic is a registered community legal service, providing free legal advice and assistance to people experiencing disadvantage in their access to justice, or whose matters are conducted in the public interest.

As a teaching law firm, Deakin Law Clinic forms a central part of Deakin Law School's clinical legal education programme.

Deakin Law Clinic provides late year students from Deakin Law School legal placement opportunities under the supervision of qualified legal practitioners where students build the legal skills that underpin their academic training.