You are **not** required to have a court-appointed guardian when you turn 18 to help you make educational decisions.

**Here are some things to know about being an adult with a guardian.**

The court decides which rights you keep and lose.

- Vote in elections
- Drive a vehicle
- Decide medical care
- Enter into contracts
- Where you live
- If you can marry

**Getting Your Rights Back**

**RIGHTS RESTORATION**

The court decides if you no longer need a guardian. You'll prove to the court you have ability, also known as capacity, to make your own decisions. A doctor or qualified professional will have to agree. Going to court will take time, months to years. It may also take money.

**Types**

- Full guardianship gives all your rights to the guardian.
- Limited guardianship gives some of your rights to the guardian.

**Alternatives**

**Supported Decision Making Plan**

- Power of Attorney - Educational, General, Health
- Representative Payee
- Joint Bank Account
- Midwest Special Needs Trust

**Supported Decision Making**

You choose your supporter. You choose when you need support.

**Contact Resources**

- Missouri Protection and Advocacy 1(800) 392-8667  www.moadvocacy.org
- Alternatives to Guardianship  www.alternativestoguardianship.com

**Informational Resources**

- Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council  www.moddcouncil.org
- UMKC-IHD LifeCourse Nexus  www.umkcctlc@umkc.edu

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