

# What is the difference between the Office of the Public Advocate and the Public Trustee?





This is an easy read factsheet.

This means we use pictures to help explain words.



The Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) wrote this factsheet. When you see the word 'we' it means the people who work at OPA.

**bold**

Hard words are **bold**.

not bold



You can ask someone to help you read this factsheet.

You can read our Hard Word factsheet if you need more help.



We wrote this factsheet to explain what the difference is between the **Office of the Public Advocate (OPA)** and the **Public Trustee (PT)**.

# Which office can help you?



The **Office of the Public Advocate** and the **Public Trustee** are two different offices.



Public Trustee

They are also called **OPA** and the **PT**.



The **Public Advocate** is a person.

She is in charge of people working at OPA

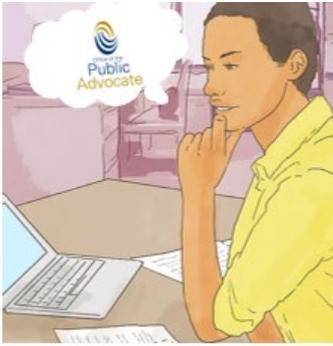


The **Public Trustee** is also a person.

He is in charge of people working at the PT.



Both offices can help the same person.



Some people need help from the **Office of the Public Advocate (OPA)**, where the Public Advocate is the guardian.



Some people need help from the **Public Trustee (PT)**, where the Public Trustee is the administrator



And some people need help from both offices.

Where the **Public Advocate** is the guardian and the **Public Trustee** is the administrator.

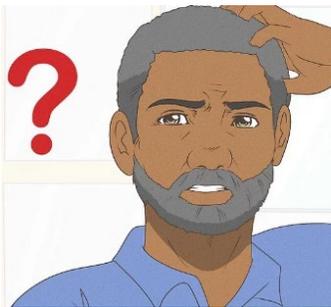
## What's the difference?



**OPA** and the **PT** have separate offices.



If you have a guardian and administrator, it can be hard to know who to talk to.



If you need to talk to someone about where you live, your medicine, health, or services.



These are called **lifestyle decisions**.



You should call **OPA** and speak to a guardian.



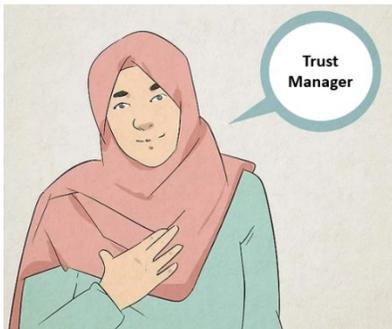
If you need to talk to someone about money, selling things or paying bills.



These are called **financial decisions**.



You should call the **PT** and speak to a trust manager.



Trust manager is another word for administrator.

# Contact information - Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) For lifestyle decisions



The **Office of the Public Advocate** protects the rights of adults with decision-making disabilities and is appointed under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990 (WA)*.



[www.publicadvocate.wa.gov.au](http://www.publicadvocate.wa.gov.au).



PO Box 6293, East Perth, WA 6892



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(08) 9278 7300

or

The telephone advisory service number is  
1300 858 455

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# Contact information - The Public Trustee (PT) For financial decisions



[www.publictrustee.wa.gov.au](http://www.publictrustee.wa.gov.au)



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