

Now Public Trustee

Elder abuse: *safeguard your financial future*

Financial misuse has become one of the most common forms of elder abuse in our country.

To help put an end to elder abuse it is important to know what elder abuse is, be able to recognise the signs, understand the rights of older people and how these rights can be protected.

Be aware.

Elder abuse is any action, or lack of action, deliberate or unintentional, which causes distress, harm, or serious risk of harm to an older person.

Specifically, financial abuse involves the illegal or improper use and/or mismanagement of a person's money, property or resources, and can occur when a person takes advantage of their position as an Attorney.

Take action.

Regardless of your age today, be proactive and take the necessary steps to protect your assets while you have the mental capacity to do so.

Make an Enduring Power of Attorney (EPA) and nominate an individual(s) or organisation to act on your behalf if the need arises. Your EPA will not be activated unless you choose to or if you lose mental capacity, then a medical authority will activate your EPA on your behalf.

The person or organisation you appoint as Attorney will have significant power over your affairs and should be trustworthy, capable and willing to assume the role if needed. The best protection is to appoint a professional or specialised organisation that is impartial and can provide assurance of longevity to care for your finances at any point in the future.

In addition to offering an Attorney service to the general public, Public Trustee is at times appointed by the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT) to act as Administrator for a person's financial affairs after suspected financial abuse has already occurred.

Are we in your area next?

Public Trustee's head office is located in Adelaide's Victoria Square, however each month we visit a number of other metropolitan and regional locations to bring our Will-making and Enduring Power of Attorney services to you.

To find out what areas we will be in next, please call us on **8226 9204** or visit www.publictrustee.sa.gov.au/news

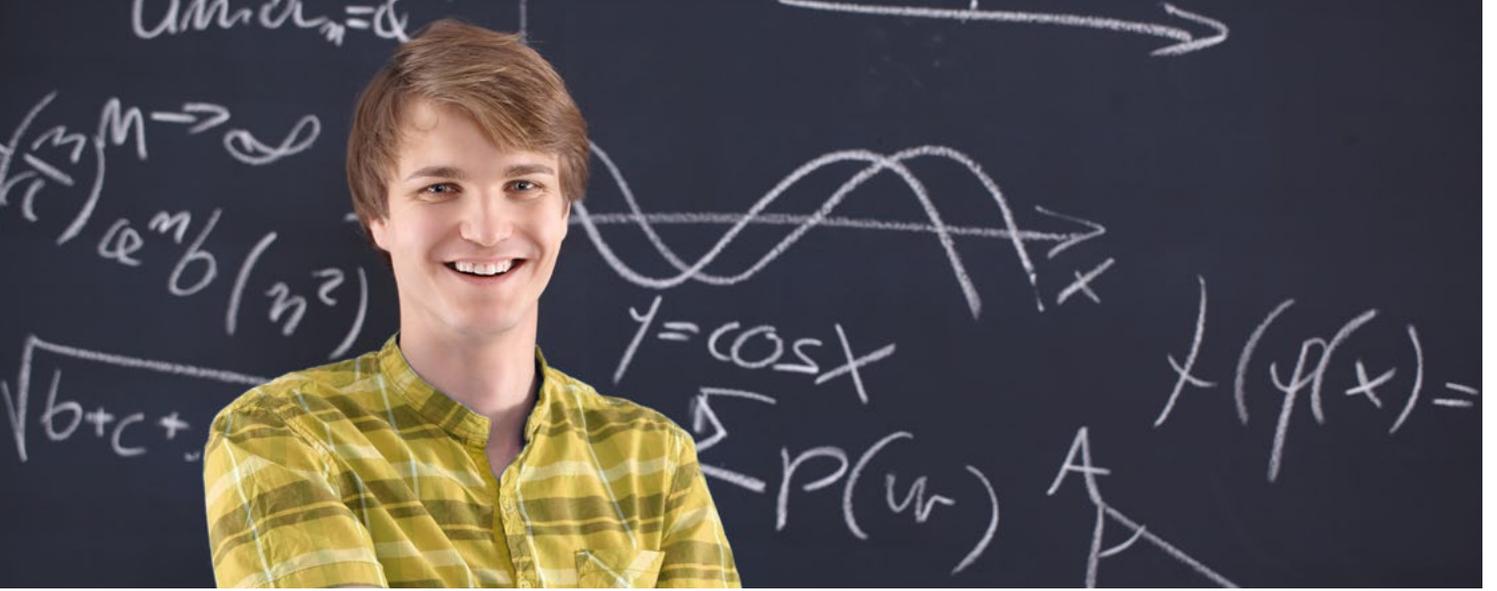
Speak up.

Everyone has a right to be safe and be treated with dignity and respect. If you think that you or someone you know may be experiencing elder abuse, don't wait, call the South Australian Elder Abuse Prevention Phone Line on 1800 372 310 or visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/stopelderabuse or www.sa.agedrights.asn.au

To protect your financial affairs learn more about EPA's at www.publictrustee.sa.gov.au/wills-services/power-of-attorney

Statistical source: SA Health





Aspiring scientists benefit from *education trust*

The late Cedric Arnold Seth Ferry had a passion for promoting study and research in the scientific fields of physics and chemistry. So much so that he chose to set-up a trust to provide a financial legacy for students wanting to study Honours with a major in physics and/or chemistry who would otherwise find it financially difficult to do so.

Since 1989, Mr Ferry's education trust – known as the Ferry Scholarship – has helped more than 100 Honours level students from Flinders University, the University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide.

"Winning the Ferry Scholarship definitely helped me achieve my success throughout the year. I used the funds to lessen my financial burden. Due to not having to worry about financial matters I could fully focus on my studies and hence accomplish much of what I did in my honours year."

Helen Geng, Honours Student,
Adelaide University

People often establish trusts in their Will to provide ongoing financial security for their spouse (or domestic partner), children, and/or grandchildren. A trust can also be established to support a charity or for education purposes like the Ferry Scholarship. Setting up a trust provides a legal framework to manage your estate and protects the interests of those who will benefit.

"The Ferry Scholarship was such a fantastic opportunity to enable me to fully commit to my studies."

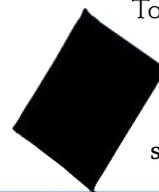
The scholarship funds I received from Public Trustee were used for tuition at Aquinas (a university residential college for rural students), ensuring I was in the best environment possible to achieve greatness."

Jordan Wray, Honours Student,
Flinders University

Administered by Public Trustee, the Ferry trust has been prudently managed over time, attracting consistent, strong returns. As a result, on average a total of about six students currently receive an annual scholarship of up to \$7,500 per person.

Each year applications are sought by late January and generally scholarships are awarded by 31 March. Applicants must meet strict criteria including having an Australian citizenship, being under 25 years of age, and providing evidence of financial hardship. For further information about the Ferry Scholarship please email pt.enquiries@sa.gov.au

To read more about Public Trustee's trust services visit publictrustee.sa.gov.au/financial-services/trust-services





Take control of your future *by Planning Ahead*

Did you know one in six people in Australia will have a stroke?

And every six minutes an Australian is diagnosed with dementia?

These are grim statistics, however, they also offer a sound reminder of why we need to get our affairs in order.

Planning Ahead is about taking control of your future. It means your choices will be known and acted on if you cannot express them yourself.

This may happen if you have a sudden accident, become very ill or develop a condition that affects your memory and your planning ability.

Thinking about your future and making your wishes known in advance can help reduce family stress and conflict during times of crisis.

It is never too late to plan ahead:

- ✦ Talk to your family now about your future wishes.
- ✦ Act now to protect your future rights, wishes, values and preferences.

We will come to you

For South Australians who are infirm and unable to visit a Public Trustee office, an appointment for making a Will or Enduring Power of Attorney can be held in an individual's home, hospital or similar. To ensure an individual is eligible for these services, please call us on **8226 9204**.

For more information about Planning Ahead visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/planningahead

Statistical source: SA Health.

PLANNING AHEAD TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR FUTURE TODAY



Government of South Australia
SA Health

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO SECURE MY FUTURE WISHES?

Legal tools are available to help secure your future health, financial, legal and personal choices:



ENDURING POWER OF ATTORNEY

Making an Enduring Power of Attorney means your financial affairs can be looked after by someone you know and trust when decisions need to be made on your behalf.



ADVANCE CARE DIRECTIVE

Ensure your wishes for future health care, living arrangements and other personal matters are known and respected if you are unable to make decisions personally in the future.



ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION

Ensure you document your wishes to become an organ or tissue donor by registering with DonateLife.



WILL

By making a Will you are saying who you want your property and possessions (your 'estate') to go to after death.

About Us



**The Public Trustee,
Debra Contala**

Public Trustee was established in 1881 and is a multi-disciplinary Government Business Enterprise offering a range of services in Will-making, estate management and financial administration to the South Australian community.

Public Trustee is responsible for generating its own income and pays a dividend to the State Government.

Under the *Public Trustee Act 1995*, Public Trustee can act as a trustee, executor of a Will, administrator of an estate (both during a person's lifetime or at death), manager, receiver, committee, curator, guardian, next friend, agent, attorney, or stakeholder.

Contact Us

-  General (08) 8226 9200
-  Appointments (08) 8226 9204
-  Country landline freecall 1800 673 119
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-  GPO Box 1338 Adelaide SA 5001
-  211 Victoria Square Adelaide SA
-  www.publictrustee.sa.gov.au

Our Services

Our services are varied, specialised in nature and include Wills, Enduring Power of Attorney, Executor services, Trusts, Personal financial administration and Tax returns.

Public Trustee services involve:

- ✦ offering general information about deceased estate administration and administering a living client's financial affairs
- ✦ making and storing your Will
- ✦ acting as Executor of your Will and distributing your estate according to your wishes
- ✦ acting as an Administrator for intestate estates or where you are the Executor for a deceased estate
- ✦ making and acting as your Enduring Power of Attorney and ensuring your financial affairs are well managed during your lifetime
- ✦ acting as trustee for minors, adults and charitable trusts
- ✦ completing tax returns
- ✦ managing the financial and legal affairs for people who are unable or no longer wish to manage their own affairs
- ✦ examining and regulating the accounts of private administrators (under a legal Order).

Disclaimer

This publication does not constitute legal or professional advice. Public Trustee has made all reasonable endeavours to publish accurate information that is current at the date of print. No liability is accepted to any person or organisation for the use of information contained in this publication.