



NCG CORE COMPETENCIES
Percentages on Exams
2026

1. PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES –18%

Knowledge and application of guardianship principles as they relate to the professional roles of the guardian (includes but not limited to):

- 1.1 Complying with NGA ethics and standards
- 1.2 Avoiding conflicts of interest
- 1.3 Respecting confidentiality
- 1.5 Developing and maintaining business best practices
- 1.6 Working with other fiduciaries (POA/Trustee/Payee)
- 1.7 Managing multiple cases
- 1.8 Engaging the services of other professionals
- 1.9 Engaging legal counsel

2. KNOWLEDGE OF THE PERSON –17%

Knowledge of the personal aspects of a person with a guardian's life and ability to address those special situations or circumstances affecting the person (includes but not limited to):

- 2.1 Applying person-centered planning
- 2.2 Respecting diversity and equity needs
- 2.3 Understanding history, values & beliefs
- 2.7 Understanding family dynamics
- 2.8 Assessing medical, psychological and other individualized needs
- 2.9 Practicing conflict resolution

3. APPLICATION OF SURROGATE DECISION-MAKING –12%

Knowledge of theory and application of decision-making principles and limitations in making surrogate decisions (includes but not limited to):

- 3.1 Applying substituted judgement
- 3.2 Providing informed consent
- 3.3 Understanding situational capacity
- 3.5 Accessing least restrictive alternatives
- 3.6 Advocating for the person's rights
- 3.7 Engaging the person in decision-making
- 3.8 Encouraging self-determination
- 3.9 Using supported decision-making

4. KNOWLEDGE OF LAWS, COURTS AND LEGAL PROCESSES – 15%

Knowledge of laws, courts and legal processes governing guardianship and the guardian's responsibility to modify, terminate or limit a guardianship (includes but not limited to):

- 4.2 Differentiating types of guardianship (limited, emergency)
- 4.3 Complying with court monitoring and supervision
- 4.5 Recognizing limits to guardian's authority
- 4.6 Following due process
- 4.7 Reporting abuse, neglect, exploitation
- 4.8 Advocating for restoration of capacity
- 4.9 Modifying a guardianship order

5. PERSONAL MANAGEMENT –13%

Knowledge and application of the responsibilities of the guardian of the person including planning for and overseeing supports and services (includes but not limited to):

- 5.1 Developing the guardianship plan
- 5.2 Making appropriate residential choices
- 5.3 Monitoring and evaluating well-being
- 5.4 Determining functional abilities
- 5.6 Knowing community/professional resources, services
- 5.7 Addressing abuse, neglect, exploitation

6. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT –11%

Knowledge and application of the responsibilities for financial management of a person with a guardian's estate and assets (includes but not limited to):

- 6.1 Marshalling assets and inventorying resources
- 6.2A Managing personal property
- 6.2B Managing real property
- 6.4 Obtaining and maintaining public benefits and income sources
- 6.5 Securing and safekeeping assets
- 6.11 Maintaining accounting best practices
- 6.12 Developing financial plans/budgets

7. MEDICAL DECISION-MAKING –14%

Knowledge and application of the principles and responsibilities surrounding surrogate medical decisions, including the ability to identify issues that have legal and ethical consequences for both the guardian and the person with a guardian (includes but not limited to):

- 7.2 Ensuring end-of-life care
- 7.3 Making complex medical decisions
- 7.5 Withholding and withdrawing care
- 7.6 Complying with medical surrogacy documents
- 7.7 Respecting and advocating for medical preferences
- 7.8 Providing informed consent
- 7.9 Understanding Medicare/Medicaid/insurance benefits