



Funds in Court



Your court money

Information book



Easy English 2013



What is court money?

This is money you get from the court.

The money will help you live your life



Who gets court money?

18

You are under 18 years old

or



you have a disability.



- car accident.

You may **not** be able to work.

Transport Accident Commission may
give you money.



- bad accident.

The accident was someone else's fault.

For example,

- you got the wrong medicine in hospital.

This made you very sick.

The hospital may give you money.



The court says you must have money
to help you now. This is your **court money**.



What is Funds in Court?



Funds in Court is part of the

Supreme Court of Victoria.

The Supreme Court is the top court in Victoria.

The Supreme Court makes decisions about

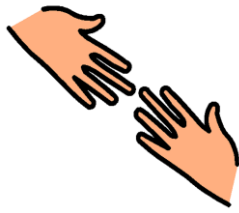


- crime. For example, you do a murder.

You must go to jail.



- money. For example, you got hurt. The court says you must have money to help you now.



You may need help to look after your court money. For example, you

- got hurt
- have a brain injury
- find it hard to look after your money.



Funds in Court looks after your money for you.



Why does Funds in Court look after your court money?



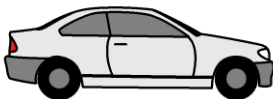
To make sure

- you get your money
- **no** one takes your money from you
- you spend your money on things you need.

For example,



– a house



– a car



– carers



– furniture for your house.



People who help you



Senior Master

The Senior Master is the boss of the Funds in Court. The Senior Master says

- yes. You can spend your money
- or**
- no. You can **not** spend your money.



The Senior Master

- is fair
- thinks about what is best for you.

You have a say about your money

but

the Senior Master has the final say.



Trust Officer

Your Trust Officer is like your case manager.

This is the person you talk to at Funds in Court.



You can

- spend your money
- and**
- buy what you need.



but



You must ask your Trust Officer first.



Your Trust Officer will talk to the Senior Master.



Your Trust Officer will help you

- think about your future
- plan for long term.



Other help you can get from Funds in Court



Your court money may change other money you get. For example, money from

- Centrelink
- Workcover
- Transport Accident Commission.

This is also called TAC.

For example, you may stop getting money from Centrelink.



You may have a question about

- your care
- counselling
- study
- services
- rehab.



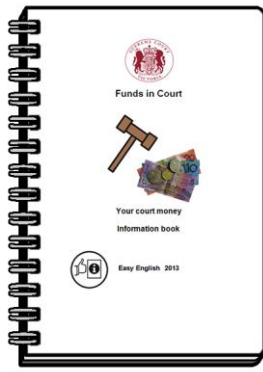
Talk to your Trust Officer.



Funds in Court is here to help you.

You can ask us questions.

We can visit you anywhere in Australia.



What is in this book?



This book tells you about Funds in Court.

- How to buy what you need
- How to work with Funds in Court
- How Funds in Court looks after your money.

There are 7 topics.

For example,

- how to buy a car
- or**
- how to make a complaint.

This book tells you a little bit about each topic.

You can read more about the topic you want.

You can read the full book for each topic.



You can get each book at

Funds in Court.

Our office is at

Level 5

469 La Trobe Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000

or



ask your Trust Officer.

Topics in this book

How to buy a house



This is on page 18.



How to buy a car

This is on page 21.



Build a house

and

Do work to your house

This is on page 24.



Your tax

This is on page 28.



How the Senior Master

looks after your money

This is on page 32.



How to make a complaint

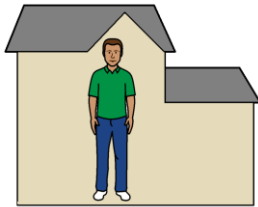
This is on page 36.



How to buy a house



You can buy a house with
your court money.



You must live in your house.

Do **not**



- sign a contract

or



- pay any money.



You must ask your Trust Officer first.

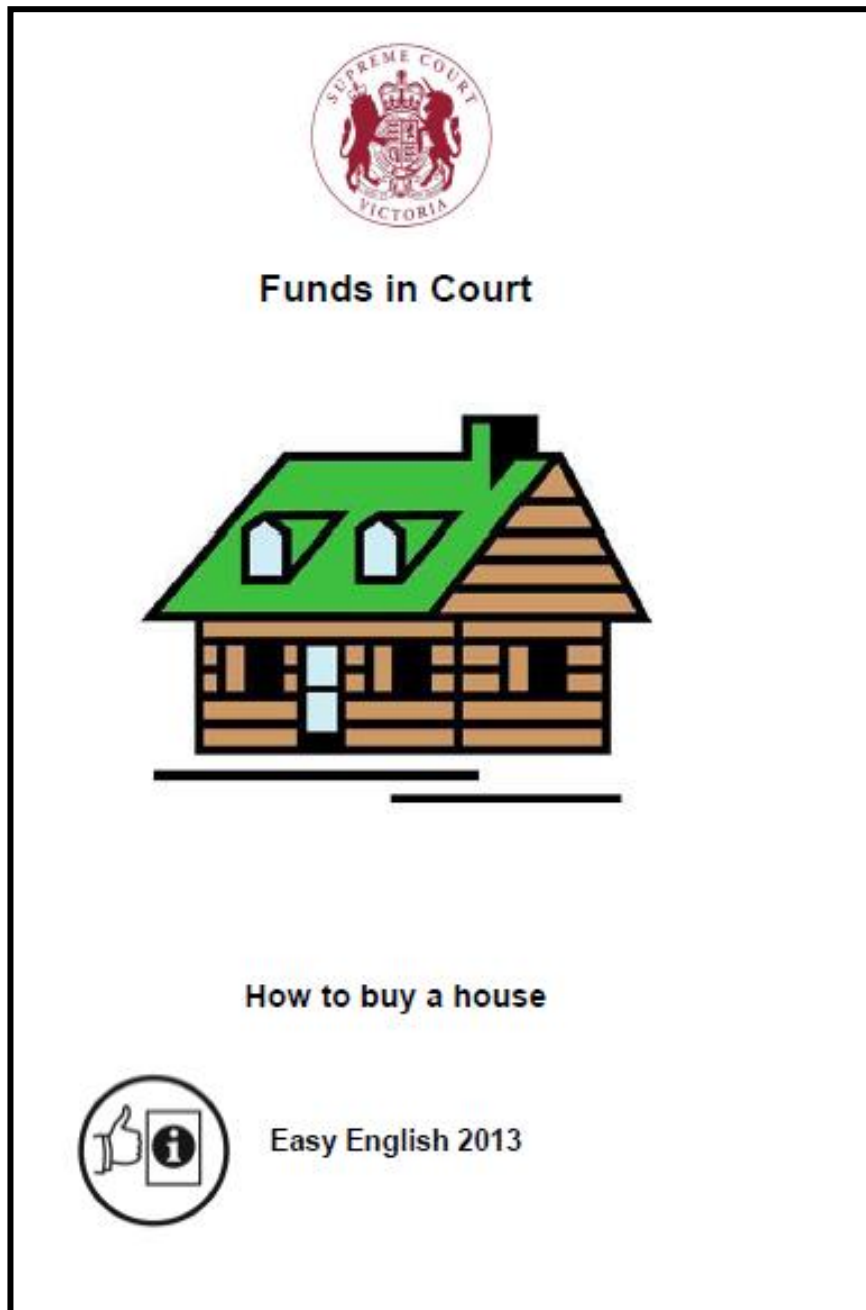


Your Trust Officer will talk to the Senior Master.



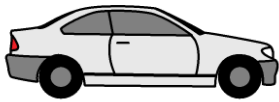
More information

Read **How to buy a house** guide





How to buy a car



You can buy a car with your court money.

Do **not**



- sign a contract

or



- pay any money.



You must ask your Trust Officer first.



Your Trust Officer will talk to the Senior Master.



More information

Read How to buy a car guide



Funds in Court



How to buy a car



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Building a house

and

Do work to your house



You can use your court money to

- build a house
- and**
- do work to your house.



You can do work to your house.

For example,

- build a ramp.

You can get into your house in a wheelchair

or

- put a hoist in your bathroom.

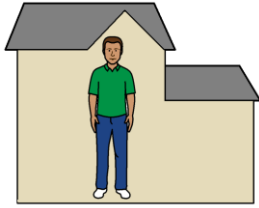


You can fix your house. For example,

- the roof leaks

or

- the wall has a crack in it.



The house must be for you.

You must live in the house.

Do **not**



- sign a contract

or



- pay any money.



You must ask your Trust Officer first.



Your Trust Officer will talk to the Senior Master.



More information

Read

Build a house

and

Do work to your house.



Funds in Court



Building a house

and

Doing work to your house



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Your tax



Tax is money you pay to the government.

Tax money comes out of your pay, if you have a job.

You pay tax from



- work money

or

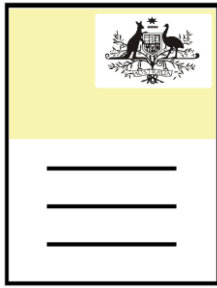


- government money

For example, Centrelink



You may also pay tax from your court money.



Your tax form.

You must do a tax return form.

The form tells the government how much

- money you have
- and**
- tax you had to pay this year.



The tax form for your court money.



Your Trust Officer will do your tax form.



The tax form for your own money.

You need to do your tax return form.

You can get help. Ask your

- family
- friends
- Trust Officer.





More information

Read **Your tax**



Funds in Court



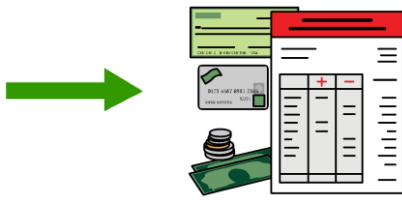
Your tax



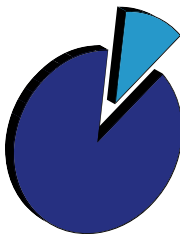
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**How the Senior Master
looks after your money**



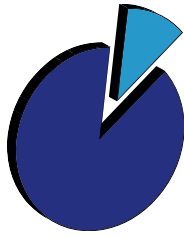
The Senior Master puts your money into a bank account. The bank account is called **common fund 2**. Some of your money may be invested in **common fund 3**.



The Senior Master uses your money in common fund 3 to buy shares for you.



The Senior Master wants your money to grow.



A share is a small part of a big company.

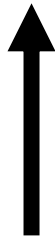
For example, it is like buying a tiny part of

- Coca Cola company

- Woolworths

or

- Commonwealth Bank.



The cost of your share can go up.

You can make money.



Since 2004 all the shares in common fund 3
have gone up.

The Senior Master has made your money grow.



More information

Read **How the Senior Master looks after your money.**



Funds in Court



How the Senior Master looks after your money



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How to make a complaint



1 You are not happy with the Senior Master.

For example,

- you want a new car. The Senior Master said you can **not** use your court money
- you want an overseas holiday, the Senior Master said you cannot use your money court money



2 You are not happy with the Judicial Registrar

For example,

- you want a house. The Judicial Registrar said you can **not** use your court money
- you want a new computer, the Judicial Registrar said you cannot use your money court money



3 You are not happy with a staff person



For example, a staff person

- was rude
- did **not** listen to you
- gave you the wrong information.



There are 2 ways you can make a complaint.



1 Phone Funds in Court

1300 039 390

or



2 Do a form. The form is on the Funds in Court

website www.fundsincourt.vic.gov.au



You can ask someone to help you.

For example, your

- family
- friend
- carer

or

- your Trust Officer.



More information

Read **How to make a complaint book**



Funds in Court



How to make a complaint



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More Information

Funds in Court



Our office is at

Level 5

469 La Trobe Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000.



Send post to

Funds in Court

Supreme Court of Victoria

210 William Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000.

Hours of operation:

Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm



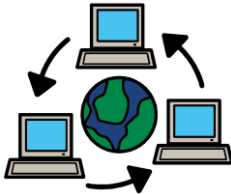
Phone 1300 039 390



Fax 1300 039 388



Email requests@fundsincourt.vic.gov.au



Website www.fundsincourt.vic.gov.au

Scope's Communication Resource Centre wrote the Easy English.

February 2013. Phone 9843 2000. www.scopevic.org.au

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