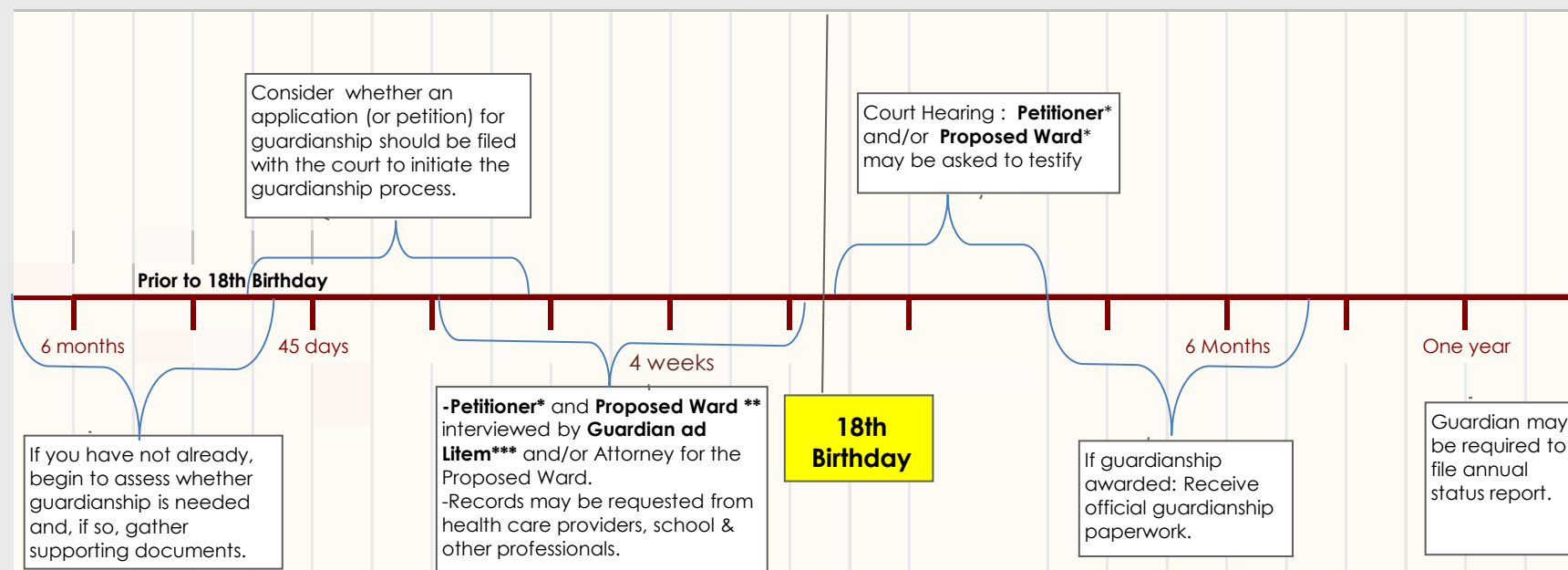


Approximate Guardianship Timeline



* **Petitioner** - An individual who requests that the court take specific action. In guardianship cases, this is usually the individual who wishes to be the guardian.

** **Proposed Ward** - Person turning 18 years old who may be in need of a guardian.

*****Guardian ad Litem** - A person appointed by the court to gather information and make recommendations as to the best interests of the proposed ward.

Important Note: Children's Mercy provides this approximate timeline for the guardianship process as a courtesy. This timeline is an **approximation** and is **not exhaustive**. Many variables can impact the timing and steps required for guardianship. The hospital does not take a position as to whether guardianship should (or should not) be sought for a particular individual, or whether an attorney should be engaged for the process. Children's Mercy is not in any way advising, directing, endorsing or responsible for your individual outcomes and experiences, which may vary.