



COURT CERTIFICATION

Pursuing certification is a worthwhile process for those looking to break into the field or advancing their existing careers by increasing their credibility, gaining experience and developing their professional network.

As a Virginia state certified mediator you will have completed one of the most rigorous certification processes in the country. Requirements involve intensive skill-building training as well as an in-depth apprenticeship in which participants have the opportunity to work with experienced mentor mediators and gain real-case experience.

The Virginia Court Mediator certification is a state-wide certification and it allows the mediator to accept court-referred cases from any court within the state. States have individual standards and requirements.

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All dates listed are for calendar year 2019.

1. Civil Track

TYPICAL ISSUES

- Landlord/tenant
- Contract
- Debt
- Business-to-business
- Neighborhood

LEVELS

- General District Court (GDC) - amount in dispute is \$25,000 or less
- Circuit Court Civil (CCC) – amount in dispute is over \$25,000

REQUIREMENTS

*Pre-requisite: Bachelor's degree **OR** equivalent work experience*

*Late registration fees go into effect 21 calendar days (or 3 weeks) prior to the start of training.
Student discount available with proof of full or part-time enrollment in a degree program.*

	GDC	CCC	COURSE DETAILS
TRAINING			
Mediation Skills and Process OR minimum 20-hour basic mediation training	Required	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 26-March 1 • April 9-12 • July 12-13 and 19-20 (Friday-Saturday over two weekends) • September 10-13 • November 12-15 Regular fee: \$1,290 Late fee: \$1,435
Orientation to the Virginia Judicial System <i>(Waived for members of the Virginia Bar)</i>	Required	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 26 • November 22 Regular fee: \$265 Late fee: \$290
Facilitation and Group Consensus Building	N/A	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 1-2 • October 8-9 Regular fee: \$875 Late fee: \$930

Preparing Memoranda and Agreements	N/A	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August 9 Regular fee: \$265 Late fee: \$290
Mediating Complex and Multi-Party Civil Cases	N/A	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 19 Regular fee: \$450 Late fee: \$495
MENTORSHIP			
Observations	Required - Minimum: 2 cases in court OR 2-day Mediation Practicum (Civil) Available at NVMS	Required - Minimum: 2 cases in court Not available at NVMS	Mentorship Dates: Ongoing Fee: \$775 (includes Court observations and co-mediations) Mediation Practicum (Civil) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 29-30 October 2-3
Co-mediations	Required - Minimum: 3 cases Total of 5 hours Scrivener for 1 agreement Available at NVMS	Required - Minimum: 5 cases at CCC level Total of 10 hours Scrivener for 1 agreement Not available at NVMS	Regular fee: \$875 Late fee: \$960
Total Cost*:	\$2,330 - \$3,210	\$3,145 - \$3,440 (it does not include mentorship cost)	

**Range reflects minimum and maximum costs. Actual program cost will be in between these two numbers and it varies based on choice of observations and date of registration for the training sessions.*

2. Family (Divorce/Separation) Track

LEVELS

- Juvenile and Domestic Relations (J&DR) - custody, visitation, co-parenting, child and spousal support
- Circuit Court Family (CCF) - custody, visitation, co-parenting, child and spousal support and division of property and assets

REQUIREMENTS

*Pre-requisite: Bachelor's degree **OR** equivalent work experience*

*Late registration fees go into effect 21 calendar days (or 3 weeks) prior to the start of training.
Student discount available with proof of full or part-time enrollment in a degree program.*

	JDR	CCF	COURSE DETAILS
TRAINING			
Mediation Skills and Process OR minimum 20-hour basic mediation training	Required	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 26-March 1 • April 9-12 • July 12-13 and 19-20 (Friday-Saturday over two weekends) • September 10-13 • November 12-15 Regular fee: \$1,290 Late fee: \$1,435
Orientation to the Virginia Judicial System <i>(Waived for members of the Virginia Bar)</i>	Required	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 26 • November 22 Regular fee: \$265 Late fee: \$290
Family Mediation Skills <i>Pre-requisite: Basic mediation skills training</i>	N/A	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 27-29 Regular fee: \$1,200 Late fee: \$1,350
Domestic Violence Assessment <i>Pre-requisite: Family Mediation Skills</i>	N/A	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 9 Regular fee: \$450 Late fee: \$495
Resolving Economic Issues in Divorce	N/A	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 23-24

<i>Pre-requisite: Family Mediation Skills</i>			Regular fee: \$650 Late fee: \$700
MENTORSHIP			
Observations	<p>Required - Minimum: 2 cases in court Not available at NVMS</p> <p>OR</p> <p>2-day Mediation Practicum (Family) Available at NVMS</p>	<p>Required - Minimum: 2 cases in court Not available at NVMS</p> <p>OR</p> <p>2-day Mediation Practicum (Family) Available at NVMS</p>	<p>Mediation Practicum (Family)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 2-3 <p>Regular fee: \$875 Late fee: \$960</p>
<p>Co-mediations</p> <p><i>Pre-requisite: Completion of Observation requirement</i></p>	<p>Required - Minimum: 5 cases at JDR level Total of 10 hours Scrivener for 1 agreement Completion of 1 child support worksheet Available at NVMS</p>	<p>Required - Minimum: 5 cases at CCF level (must include property) Total of 10 hours Scrivener for 1 agreement Completion of 1 child support worksheet Available at NVMS</p>	<p>Mentorship Dates: Ongoing</p> <p>Fee: \$750 (includes co-mediations only)</p>
Total Cost*:	\$4,915 - \$5,280	\$5,480 - \$5,980	

**Range reflects minimum and maximum costs. Actual program cost will be in between these two numbers and it varies based on choice of observations and date of registration for the training sessions.*

Re-Certification Requirements

Required every two years. Deadline October 31.

Must complete the following:

- 8 hours of approved mediation training (training that carries CMEs)
- 2 hours of **mediator ethics** training

Considerations:

- Core course count towards CME requirements.
- Mediators with multiple certifications who recertify every year may reuse trainings as long as they take place during the two-year certification period.
- CMEs accrued in excess of the recertification requirement can be carried over up to a maximum of 8 hours.
- Ethics training cannot be carried over.
- Mediators attending Mediation Peer Consultation sessions may receive up to 6 hours of CMEs.
- Co-mediations followed by self-reflection may count to up to 3 hours of CMEs.