

Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division Family Mediation Training Announcement

The Family Mediation Program of the D.C. Superior Court's Multi-Door Division is accepting applications for family mediation training. Mediators in this program typically mediate cases involving custody, visitation, and child support. The training is provided free of charge. In exchange, applicants must make a commitment to attend all training sessions, co-mediate one case with a mentor and mediate for a minimum of one year following completion of training and mentorship.

Training Dates: March 13, 14, 15, 16, 17; and March 30, 31, 2023. The training will take place in person on March 13, 17, and 31. Training will start at 9 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. *Trainees must be able to attend all training dates to be considered.*

Application Deadline: The application period will close after 40 applications are received or by 11:59 p.m. on December 15, 2022. Interviews will be scheduled during January 2023 and candidates selected for training will be expected to observe one family mediation session before the start of training.

Post-Training Commitment: In exchange for free training, trainees must complete the classroom training, co-mediate one complete case (an average of 5 sessions) with an experienced family mediator and receive an acceptable performance rating before becoming eligible to mediate independently.

- Trainees will be added to the program roster upon successful completion of the training and mentorship. New mediators also must mediate three unpaid mediation sessions, as a solo mediator, before becoming eligible to receive a stipend.
- New mediators must make themselves available to mediate at least 4 sessions per month during their first year on the program roster. Mediation opportunities are available Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, at 6:00 pm on Tuesday through Thursday and Saturdays at 10:00 am and 12:00 pm.
- Trainees who are unable to keep this commitment during their first year may become ineligible to continue with the program. Attendance at certain program training events will also be required.

Those who are unable to make the commitments outlined above at this time are asked to apply when their circumstances change.

Mediator Compensation:

Mediators are paid a stipend of \$60 per mediation session and \$50 for sessions for which one or more parties do not appear. Mediators receive an additional stipend of \$100 for writing a family mediation agreement.

Ongoing Requirements:

Following the initial commitment year, mediators must be available to mediate at least 24 sessions per year to remain on the program roster. After completion of the initial one-year term, mediators also will be required to earn 12 hours of continuing education applicable to the family program, during each two-year term. Multi-Door offers ample free training, sufficient to allow mediators to earn their continuing education credit through Multi-Door, but mediators may also apply for credit from training provided by others.

Submitting Applications:

Submit applications via the online form linked below.

<https://forms.gle/9ThufQW8gWx22jsE9>

Questions about the program or application process should be directed to Emmett Ward, ADR Training Manager, at emmett.ward@dcsc.gov or by telephone at 202-879-0675, or to Suzanne Rose, Family Mediation Program Officer, at suzanne.rose@dcsc.gov or by telephone at 202-879-0670.