

Supreme Court of Florida Dependency Mediation Trainer Requirements

Certified dependency mediation training programs shall employ primary trainers, assistant trainers and subject matter specialists who meet the applicable qualifications outlined below and who have been approved by the Center. Approval as an assistant or primary trainer shall be for two years.

Primary Trainer: In order to be approved as a primary trainer, a trainer shall demonstrate the following qualifications:

- A. Mediation Training Received: Successful completion of a Supreme Court of Florida certified dependency mediation training.
- B. Mediation Experience: Participation in a minimum of 20 complete Florida dependency mediation conferences (or their equivalent) as the mediator with a minimum of four Florida dependency mediation conferences (or their equivalent) as the mediator or as an observer within the last two years.
- C. Continuing Education: Completion of 16 hours of continuing mediator education including three hours of train the mediation trainer or adult teaching techniques within the last two years. Lecturing in and/or attending a certified mediation training program in which the trainer conducted the program does not qualify toward the required continuing mediator education for trainers.
- D. Training Delivery Experience: One item from (i) and all of (ii)
 - (i) Participation as a lecturer for no less than one hour in a certified dependency mediation training program; critiquing a mock role play in a certified dependency mediation training program; completion of six hours of attendance in a program for trainers on adult teaching techniques; completion of six hours at a train the mediator trainer program; teaching a single continuing mediator education class for no less than three hours; teaching a mediation related program for no less than three hours or 30% of the total program whichever is greater; or teaching via live attendance a graduate or undergraduate course on ADR in a university setting; and in addition
 - (ii) Participation as a primary trainer or assistant trainer in four distinct dependency mediation training programs deemed to be the equivalent of a Supreme Court certified dependency mediation training program including:
 - (a) Participation as a role play critiquer in a minimum of two programs; and
 - (b) Participation as a lecturer for no less than one hour in a minimum two programs.
- E. Examination: Successful completion of an open-book examination on Chapter 44, mediation training standards, standards of conduct for mediators, mediator certification requirements, and mediator certification renewal requirements.

Assistant Trainer: In order to be approved as an assistant trainer, a trainer shall demonstrate the following qualifications:

- A. Mediation Training Received: Successful completion of a Supreme Court of Florida certified dependency mediation training

B. Mediation Experience: Participation in a minimum of 10 Florida dependency mediation conferences (or their equivalent) as the mediator with a minimum of four Florida dependency mediation conferences (or their equivalent) as the mediator or as an observer within the last two years.

C. Completion of 16 hours of continuing mediator education within the last two years. Lecturing in and/or attending a certified mediation training program in which the trainer conducted the program does not qualify toward the required continuing mediator education for trainers.

D. Examination: Successful completion of an open-book examination on Chapter 44, mediation training standards, standards of conduct for mediators, mediator certification requirements, and mediator certification renewal requirements.

Subject Matter Specialist: Subject matter specialists shall have a substantial part of his or her professional practice in the area about which the specialist is lecturing and shall have the ability to connect his or her area of expertise with the mediation process. Lectures on Florida Dependency Law shall be presented by a Florida attorney with dependency experience. Lectures on Family Dynamics and Psychological Issues and Issues Concerning the Needs of Children in the Context of Dependency Proceedings shall be presented by a master or doctoral level mental health professional or a licensed mental health professional (see Chapters 490 - 491, Florida Statutes).

Renewing or Reinstating Approval as a Primary Trainer: Once approved, a primary trainer shall demonstrate the following qualifications irrespective of whether such approval has lapsed:

A. Participation in a minimum of five Florida dependency mediation conferences as the mediator or as an observer within the last two years.

B. Completion of 16 hours of continuing mediator education including three hours of train the mediation trainer or adult teaching techniques within the last two years. Lecturing in and/or attending a certified mediation training program in which the trainer conducted the program does not qualify toward the required continuing mediator education for trainers.

C. Examination: Successful completion of an open-book examination on Chapter 44, mediation training standards, standards of conduct for mediators, mediator certification requirements, and mediator certification renewal requirements.

Renewing or Reinstating Approval as an Assistant Trainer: Once approved, an assistant shall demonstrate the following qualifications irrespective of whether such approval has lapsed:

A. Participation in a minimum of five Florida dependency mediation conferences as the mediator or as an observer within the last two years.

B. Completion of 16 hours of continuing mediator education within the last two years. Lecturing in and/or attending a certified mediation training program in which the trainer conducted the program does not qualify toward the required continuing mediator education for trainers.

C. Examination: Successful completion of an open-book examination on Chapter 44, mediation training standards, standards of conduct for mediators, mediator certification requirements, and mediator certification renewal requirements.