



ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMISSION

*Continuing Mediation Education,
Continuing Legal Education and
Training Programs Catalog*



2024



“Supporting Courts, Ensuring Justice”



On behalf of the Arkansas Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission, I'm pleased to present the 2024 Mediation Training and Continuing Mediation Education Catalog. This catalog contains information about certification, mediation training courses and continuing mediation education opportunities.

Each year, the Commission sponsors a series of courses that serve as the building blocks of mediation training. While anyone may take the courses, they are specifically designed to satisfy the training requirements for mediator certification. We are fortunate to work with nationally recognized faculty and to have a staff that strives to create a learning environment that is second to none.

For mediators who are certified, we offer a variety of continuing education opportunities. On odd-numbered years, we offer continuing mediation education (CME) programs in locations throughout the state. These regional programs utilize local mediators, attorneys and other professionals as faculty to present on topics tailored to meet the needs of that area, as well as the state as a whole. On even-numbered years, we offer a statewide conference in which national speakers are invited to our state to share their experience and expertise.

While one of the Commission's goals is to serve the needs of certified mediators with high-quality education programs, it is also our goal to educate attorneys, judges and the general public on the uses and benefits of mediation. To that end, anyone is welcome to attend our continuing education programs or training courses.

I hope that you find this catalog helpful, and that you are able to attend one of these engaging educational programs.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Anderson

Chair

Arkansas Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission

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ARKANSAS ADR COMMISSION

625 Marshall Street

Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 682-9400

arcourts.gov/administration/adr

2024 PROGRAM DATES

JANUARY 18, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK
ACCESS AND VISITATION MEDIATION PROGRAM
ORIENTATION SESSION

JANUARY 25, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK
ADR COMMISSION MEETING

APRIL 11, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK
ADR COMMISSION MEETING

APRIL 19, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK
ADR CONFERENCE

JULY 15-19, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK
40-HOUR CIVIL TRIAL COURT MEDIATION TRAINING

JULY 25, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK
ADR COMMISSION MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK
ACCESS AND VISITATION MEDIATION PROGRAM
ORIENTATION SESSION

SEPTEMBER 13, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK
ACCESS AND VISITATION ADVANCED CME PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 23-27, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK
40-HOUR FAMILY MEDIATION TRAINING

OCTOBER 24, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK
ADR COMMISSION MEETING



CERTIFICATION

Mediators eligible to mediate cases from the Arkansas Circuit Courts for compensation must be certified by the Arkansas ADR Commission. The Commission has established standards for mediator certification, professional conduct and discipline with which applicants must comply in order to be included on the Roster of Certified Mediators. The Roster is provided to every circuit court judge in the state, posted to our website and made available to anyone who contacts our office seeking a mediator.

There are four categories of certification: civil, probate, domestic relations and juvenile. The education, training and practical experience requirements vary for each of the categories, and the specifics are set out in the *Requirements for the Certification of Mediators for Circuit Courts*.

Certified mediators are required to adhere to ethical standards and are subject to a disciplinary process. The Commission has no authority over mediators who are not certified.

CONTINUING MEDIATION EDUCATION

In order to maintain good standing, certified mediators must complete six hours of continuing mediation education (CME) each reporting period. The reporting period begins on September 1 and ends on August 31. On even years, the Commission hosts a statewide ADR conference. On odd years, the Commission conducts regional CME programs. These regional programs are held in Central, Southeast, Southwest, Northeast and Northwest Arkansas.

Duplicate attendance of regionals is not available for CME credit.

Additionally, programs conducted by other organizations and individuals may be approved by the Commission for CME credit. The application for CME course approval can be found on the Commission's website at: arcourts.gov/administration/adr/training.



ARKANSAS ADR COMMISSION

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF MEDIATORS FOR CIRCUIT COURT OVERVIEW

	CIVIL	PROBATE	DOMESTIC RELATIONS	JUVENILE
EDUCATION	Juris Doctorate or equivalent; or Master's Degree or higher		Juris Doctorate or equivalent; or Master's Degree or higher; or Bachelor's Degree with two years work experience in family and marriage issues*	Juris Doctorate or equivalent; or Master's Degree or higher; or Bachelor's Degree with two years work experience in family and juvenile issues*
TRAINING	40-Hour Mediation Training	If the applicant meets the qualifications for certification in the civil or domestic relations category, they qualify for certification in the probate category	40-Hour Basic Mediation Training and 20-Hour Family Mediation Training or 40-Hour Family Mediation Training	40-Hour Mediation Training and 20-Hour Family Mediation Training and Juvenile Court Overview for Mediators or 40-Hour Family Mediation Training; and Juvenile Court Overview for Mediators
PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE	Observe, co-mediate or mediate two cases from the civil division of the Arkansas Circuit Court		Observe, co-mediate or mediate two cases from the domestic relations division of the Arkansas Circuit Court	Complete the Juvenile Mediation Mentor Program (<i>contact the Commission Coordinator</i>)

*Qualifying work experience is determined by the ADR Commission.

The *Requirements for the Certification of Mediators for Circuit Courts*, as well as all other rules pertaining to certified mediators, and the application for certification are available online at arcourts.gov/administration/adr.

2024 ARKANSAS ADR CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Welcome, Announcements and Introductions
8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Artificial Intelligence and ADR: Best Practices and Ethical Insights Ana Sambold, Esq. Arbitrator - Mediator <i>Chair, ABA Dispute Resolution Section</i>
9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Break
10 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Breakout Sessions Track A – Civil Harnessing Emotional Intelligence in Mediation Margaret Crowley Attorney - Mediator <i>Mediator Training Center</i> Track B - Family Custody Mediation and Domestic Violence: Applying Ethics to Enhance Safety Melissa Mangiaracina Attorney - Mediator <i>Mediator Training Center</i>
11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Break
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Managing Power Differentials in an Online Mediation Margaret Crowley and Melissa Mangiaracina Partners <i>Mediator Training Center</i>
12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Lunch (Provided)
1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Breakout Sessions Track A – Civil From Theory to Practice: Navigating Generative AI Tools Ana Sambold Attorney – Mediator <i>Chair, ABA Dispute Resolution Section</i> Track B – Family Dependency/Neglect Facilitations Kelly Browe Olson Associate Professor of Law <i>Mediation Clinic Director</i>
2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Break
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	The Lasso Effect: Channeling your Inner Coach in Mediation Sharon Corsentino Attorney - Mediator Sharon Corsentino Mediations
3:40 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.	Mediation: A View from The Bench Judge Shannon Blatt, Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court, Division 3 Judge Randy Morledge, First Judicial Circuit Court, Division 3



ARKANSAS ADR CONFERENCE AND MEDIATION TRAININGS

To register for the ADR Conference or Mediation Training, please visit arcourts.gov/administration/adrtrainingprograms. Registrations must be paid by credit card.

Arkansas ADR Conference, Little Rock April 19, 2024

Cost: Free for Judges, Law Students and Certified Mediators

Cost: \$75 for Attorneys and All Others

Registration Opens: March 4, 2024

Registration Closes: April 8, 2024

40-Hour Civil Trial Court Mediation Training, Little Rock July 15-19, 2024

Cost: \$1,200

Registration Opens: June 10, 2024

Registration Closes: July 8, 2024

40-Hour Family Mediation Training, Little Rock September 23-27, 2024

Cost: \$1,200

Registration Opens: August 19, 2024

Registration Closes: September 16, 2024

OTHER PROGRAMS

To register for a program listed below, please email Stephanie.Copeland@arcourts.gov.

Access and Visitation Mediation Orientation, Little Rock January 18, 2024

This program is open to individuals certified in domestic relations.

Registration Opens: November 28, 2023

Registration Closes: January 4, 2024

Access and Visitation Mediation Orientation, Little Rock August 15, 2024

This program is open to individuals certified in domestic relations.

Registration Opens: July 4, 2024

Registration Closes: August 8, 2024

Access and Visitation Mediation Advanced CME, Little Rock September 13, 2024

This FREE program is open to Certified Access and Visitation mediators ONLY.

Registration Opens: August 2, 2024

Registration Closes: September 6, 2024

Mediator Ethics, Law and General Practices in Arkansas

January 11, 2024 - Zoom

Applicants who complete basic or family mediation training outside of Arkansas must also complete the Commission's course Mediator Ethics, Law and General Practices in Arkansas.

40-HOUR CIVIL TRIAL COURT MEDIATION TRAINING

The focus of this training is mediating the litigated civil case. Participants will be introduced to mediation as an alternative way to resolve conflicts. Participants are taught skills used in the mediation process through lecture, discussion and role play. The goal of this course is to assist participants in gaining the skills needed to be an effective mediator.

This course satisfies the 40-hour basic or civil mediation training set forth in the *Requirements for the Certification of Mediators for Circuit Courts*. However, participants who complete this course are not automatically certified by the Arkansas ADR Commission. Certification can only be achieved by successfully completing the certification application process, which includes meeting additional education, practical experience and ethical standards.

This course is limited to 15 people.

40-HOUR CIVIL TRIAL COURT MEDIATION TRAINING COST \$1,200

July 15-19, 2024

**Justice Building, Room 101
625 Marshall Street
Little Rock, AR 72201**

- **Registration Opens: June 10, 2024**
- **Registration Closes: July 8, 2024**

40-HOUR FAMILY MEDIATION TRAINING

Family Mediation Training is a highly interactive course that provides grounding in the elements of divorce mediation. Through lecture, discussion and simulation, participants will learn the mediation process and develop the skills and knowledge necessary for mediation of property division, custody, visitation and support issues.

This course satisfies the 40-hour family mediation training standard set forth in the *Requirements for the Certification of Mediators for Circuit Courts*. However, participants who complete this course are not automatically certified by the Arkansas ADR Commission. Certification can only be achieved by successfully completing the certification application process, which includes meeting additional education, practical experience and ethical standards.

This course is limited to 15 people.

40-HOUR FAMILY MEDIATION TRAINING COST \$1,200

September 23-27, 2024

**Justice Building, Room 101
625 Marshall Street
Little Rock, AR 72201**

- **Registration Opens: August 19, 2024**
- **Registration Closes: September 16, 2024**

COMMISSION MEMBERS



CHERYL ANDERSON, *Chair*
Van Buren



TIM BOE
Little Rock



CHASE DUGGER
Beebe



EDWARD NELSON
North Little Rock



DON TAYLOR
Fayetteville



JAMES W. TILLEY
Little Rock



LORIE L. WHITBY
Paragould

The Arkansas Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission was created by Act 673 of 1995 and consists of seven volunteer members who have demonstrated prior interest or involvement in alternative dispute resolution. Members are appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Arkansas, Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The primary mission of the Commission is to encourage, promote and develop the voluntary use of alternative dispute resolution processes to resolve disputes, cases and controversies of all kinds.

The Administrative Offices of the Courts (AOC) provides general staff support, facilities and operating assistance for the Commission. The AOC is an agency within the judicial branch of government that works to support the state courts on behalf of the Arkansas Supreme Court.

The mission of the Administrative Offices of the Courts is to support the Arkansas Judiciary and employees of the judicial branch and to assist attorneys and members of the public who rely upon an independent state court system that is efficient, accessible and fair to all.

