

Florida Rules for Certified & Court–Appointed Mediators

PART I MEDIATOR QUALIFICATIONS

Rule 10.100 Certification Requirements

- (a) **General.** For certification as a county court, family, circuit court, ~~or~~ dependency, or appellate mediator, a mediator must be at least 21 years of age and be of good moral character. For certification as a county court, family, circuit court, or dependency mediator, and one must have the required number of points for the type of certification sought as specifically required in rule 10.105.
- (b) **County Court Mediators.** For initial certification as a mediator of county court matters, an applicant must have at least a high school diploma or a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) and 100 points, which shall include:
- (1) 30 points for successful completion of a Florida Supreme Court certified county court mediation training program;
 - (2) 10 points for education; and
 - (3) 60 points for mentorship.
- (c) **Family Mediators.** For initial certification as a mediator of family and dissolution of marriage issues, an applicant must have at least a bachelor's degree and 100 points, which shall include, at a minimum:
- (1) 30 points for successful completion of a Florida Supreme Court certified family mediation training program;
 - (2) 25 points for education/mediation experience; and
 - (3) 30 points for mentorship.

Additional points above the minimum requirements may be awarded for completion of additional education/mediation experience, mentorship, and miscellaneous activities.

- (d) **Circuit Court Mediators.** For initial certification as a mediator of circuit court matters, other than family matters, an applicant must have at least a bachelor's degree and 100 points, which shall include, at a minimum:
- (1) 30 points for successful completion of a Florida Supreme Court certified

circuit mediation training program;

(2) 25 points for education/mediation experience; and

(3) 30 points for mentorship.

Additional points above the minimum requirements may be awarded for completion of additional education/mediation experience, mentorship, and miscellaneous activities.

(e) **Dependency Mediators.** For initial certification as a mediator of dependency matters, as defined in Florida Rule of Juvenile Procedure 8.290, an applicant must have at least a bachelor's degree and 100 points, which shall include, at a minimum:

(1) 30 points for successful completion of a Florida Supreme Court certified dependency mediation training program;

(2) 25 points for education/mediation experience; and

(3) 40 points for mentorship.

Additional points above the minimum requirements may be awarded for completion of additional education/mediation experience, mentorship, and miscellaneous activities.

(f) Appellate Mediators. For initial certification as a mediator of appellate matters, an applicant must be a Florida Supreme Court certified circuit, family or dependency mediator and successfully complete a Florida Supreme Court certified appellate mediation training program.

(g)(f) Senior Judges Serving As Mediators. A senior judge may serve as a mediator in a court-ordered mediation only if certified by the Florida Supreme Court as a mediator for that type of mediation.

(h)(g) Referral for Discipline. If the certification or licensure necessary for any person to be certified as a family or circuit mediator is suspended or revoked, or if the mediator holding such certification or licensure is in any other manner disciplined, such matter shall be referred to the Mediator Qualifications Board for appropriate action pursuant to rule 10.800.

(i)(h) Special Conditions. Mediators who are certified by the Florida Supreme Court prior to August 1, 2006, shall not be subject to the point requirements for any category of certification in relation to which continuing certification is maintained.