



Superior Court of California
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program
Hayward Hall of Justice
24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544

COURT MEDIATION PANEL QUALIFICATIONS

I. TRAINING

- A. Panel mediators must have completed at least 40 hours of mediation training, including a single 40-hour course, **OR**
- B. Qualify as a mediator for the United States District Court for the Northern District of California or any superior court in a neighboring county, **OR**
- C. Be deemed to have sufficient training within the discretion of the court.

II. EXPERIENCE

- A. Panel mediators must have conducted:
 - i. At least five civil mediations of either limited or unlimited jurisdiction of at least two hours in length, **OR**
 - ii. Ten small claims, civil harassment, or unlawful detainers day-of-court mediations referred by the court provided that the applicant also submits a letter of recommendation from the mediation program that supervises the day-of-court mediations, verifying that the applicant has demonstrated excellent mediation skills.

III. PANEL MEMBERS INDICATING AN EXPERTISE IN PROBATE

- A. To qualify as a mediator in probate matters, the applicant must:
 - i. **EITHER:**
 - 1. Be an attorney with five years substantial substantive probate practice (75% of practice dedicated to general probate/ trusts /conservatorship /guardianship /elder law practice), **OR**
 - 2. Have mediated fifteen cases in the previous five years in the areas of probate, trusts, conservatorships or guardianships
 - ii. Complete six hours of specialized probate mediation training.
 - iii. Complete two hours of continuing education in probate mediation every two years (such continuing education may be counted as part of the six hours of the general continuing mediation education).

IV. COMPLIANCE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

- A. Panel mediators must:
 - i. Comply with all applicable ethical standards for neutrals.

- ii. Comply with all applicable California Rules of Court and the Mediation Guidelines.
- iii. Comply with minimum qualifications.

V. **STATEMENT OF COURT DISCRETION**

It is within the discretion of the court to deem the education, experience, and prior training of a mediator sufficient to join the court mediation panel.

For questions about these requirements, please contact the ADR Program office at (510) 891-6055 or adrprogram@alameda.courts.ca.gov.