

MEDIATOR CERTIFICATION THROUGH NORTHWEST MEDIATION CENTER

Northwest Mediation Center assures parties that their mediators are well-trained, qualified, and experienced. While the resolution of a mediated dispute is in the hands of the parties, the integrity of the process is the responsibility of the mediator. Through its Mediator Certification Internship Program, NMC provides the community with mediators fully capable of assuming that responsibility.

Pre-requisites to the Northwest Mediation Center Mediator Practicum Program:

1. Basic Mediation Training:

Completion of a 36-40 hour Basic Mediation Training course, which comports with Resolution Washington standards for basic training

2. Practicum Application and Entrance Exam/Assessment:

Submission to NMC of its Practicum Application and successfully complete a written Entrance Examination/Assessment covering knowledge of basic mediation principles, vernacular and skills.

3. Pay the \$100 practicum fee

After the above three steps are met, the intern may enter the Practicum Program at any time, and proceed with the following requirements at their own pace:

1. Observations: Participate in at least 20 hours of observation

- a. This may include mediation preparation, session time and debriefing, conducted either at NMC, or by a mediator approved by the Certification Committee at NMC.
- b. At least 14 observation hours must be attributable to at least 3 actual, completed cases.
- c. 6 observation hours may, with advance approval, include mock mediations.

2. Solo Mock Mediation: Participate in at least one solo mock mediation, supervised/coached by a certified mediator.

3. 24 hours Actual Mediation Experience: Participate, as a mediator, in at least 24 hours of actual mediation experience

- a. Mediations may be solo, with a supervisory, certified mediator as an observer, or co-mediation with a certified mediator
- b. Mediations, for intern purposes, will be comprised of at least 4 separate and completed cases.

4. Additional Practicum Experience: completion of a minimum of 12 hours, approved in advance by the Certification Committee, which may include, but are not limited to:

- a. In-Service training
- b. Intake/Conciliation training and practice (office volunteering)
- c. Conference and/or topically related seminar attendance
- d. Book/article review (written or oral)
- e. Participation in mock mediations and debriefing
- f. Peer Consultation and round-table discussions.

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5. **Agree to Abide by Standards of Conduct for Mediations**, as currently adopted by NMC.

6. **Certification Review** (may only be completed at Northwest Mediation Center):
 - a. Review feedback from supervisors and co-mediators; and any feedback, if provided, from mediation parties.
 - b. Interview with intern and certification committee;
 - c. Review and written decision from the Certification Committee
 - d. If the committee deems it appropriate, an intern who is denied certification at this time may be given the opportunity to repeat specific steps and repeat the Review process.
 - e. If the committee approves the intern for certification, the Certification Certificate will be presented with ceremony, and the individual may present him/herself, as a Certified Mediator through Northwest Mediation Center.

Note on Individualization:

The Certification Committee may waive or modify some items for interns who demonstrate extensive conflict resolution training and/or experience outside the Dispute Resolution Center system. With prior agreement of the Certification Committee and the other institution, an intern may complete some education or other practicum experience, through another Resolution Washington member Dispute Resolution Center or an equivalent program.