



Superior Court of California  
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

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

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## 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](mailto:adrprogram@alameda.courts.ca.gov).