



# 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, the Commission offers a series of CME programs throughout the year. The programs may be webinars or in-person events. These programs utilize both local and national 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

## ADR COMMISSION STAFF

### JENNIFER TAYLOR

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### STEPHANIE SMITH

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## ARKANSAS ADR COMMISSION

625 Marshall Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
(501) 682-9400  
[arcourts.gov/administration/adr](https://arcourts.gov/administration/adr)



# 2024 PROGRAM DATES

## **JANUARY 2024**

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

JANUARY 25, 2024 - ZOOM  
**ADR COMMISSION MEETING**

## **APRIL 2024**

APRIL 19, 2024 - Little Rock  
**ADR CONFERENCE**

APRIL 25, 2024 - ZOOM  
**ADR COMMISSION  
MEETING**

## **JULY 2024**

JULY 22 -26, 2024 - LITTLE ROCK  
**40 HOUR CIVIL TRIAL COURT MEDIATION  
TRAINING**

JULY 25, 2024 - ZOOM  
**ADR COMMISSION  
MEETING**

## **AUGUST 2024**

AUGUST 15, 2024

**ACCESS & VISITATION MEDIATION PROGRAM  
ORIENTATION SESSION**

## **SEPTEMBER 2024**

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

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

## **OCTOBER 2024**

OCTOBER 26, 2024 – TBA  
**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 offers a series of CME programs throughout the year. The programs may be webinars or in-person events.

*\*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](http://arcourts.gov/administration/adr/training).





# ARKANSAS ADR COMMISSION

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF MEDIATORS FOR CIRCUIT COURT OVERVIEW

	CIVIL	PROBATE	DOMESTIC RELATIONS	JUVENILE
<b>EDUCATION</b>	Juris Doctorate or equivalent; or Master's Degree or higher	If the applicant meets the qualifications for certification in the civil or domestic relations category, they qualify for certification in the probate category	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*
<b>TRAINING</b>	40-Hour Mediation Training		40-Hour Basic Mediation Training <b>and</b> 20-Hour Family Mediation Training <b>or</b> 40-Hour Family Mediation Training	40-Hour Mediation Training <b>and</b> 20-Hour Family Mediation Training <b>and</b> Juvenile Court Overview for Mediators <b>or</b> 40-Hour Family Mediation Training; and Juvenile Court Overview for Mediators
<b>PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE</b>	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](http://arcourts.gov/administration/adr).

# 2024 ADR CONFERENCE

**Delta Hotel, April 19, 2024**

Presenters: Leslie Copeland & Hadley Hindmarsh

Registration Opens: December 12, 2022

Registration Closes: January 5, 2023

## **Arkansas ADR Live Webinar, February 9, 2023**

Presenter(s): TBA

Registration Opens: January 12, 2023

Registration Closes: February 2, 2023

## **Arkansas ADR Live Webinar, March 9, 2023**

Presenter(s): Charlene Berquist & Heather Blades

Registration Opens: February 9, 2023

Registration Closes: March 2, 2023

## **Arkansas ADR Live Webinar, April 13, 2023**

Presenter(s): TBA

Registration Opens: March 9, 2023

Registration Closes: April 6, 2023

## **Arkansas ADR Live Webinar, May 11, 2023**

Presenter: TBA

Registration Opens: April 13, 2023

Registration Closes: May 4, 2023

## **Arkansas ADR Live Webinar, June 8, 2023**

Presenter: Cynthia Greer

Registration Opens: May 11 2023

Registration Closes: June 1, 2023

# ARKANSAS ADR WEBINARS AND MEDIATION TRAININGS

To register for ADR Webinars or Mediation Training, please visit [arcourts.gov/administration/adrtrainingprograms](https://arcourts.gov/administration/adrtrainingprograms). Registrations must be paid by credit card.

## ARKANSAS ADR WEBINARS - SAVE THE DATES

### JANUARY 16, 2025

Registration Opens: December 26, 2024  
Registration Closes: January 9, 2025

### FEBRUARY 20, 2025

Registration Opens: January 16, 2025  
Registration Closes: January 30, 2025

### March 20, 2025

Registration Opens: February 20, 2025  
Registration Closes: March 6, 2025

### April 17, 2025

Registration Opens: March 20, 2025  
Registration Closes: April 3, 2025

### May 15, 2025

Registration Opens: April 17, 2025  
Registration Closes: May 1, 2025

### June 19, 2025

Registration Opens: May 15, 2025  
Registration Closes: June 1, 2025

## ARKANSAS ADR MEDIATION TRAINING

### 40-HOUR CIVIL TRIAL COURT MEDIATION TRAINING

July 24-28, 2023 - **Cost: \$1,100**

Registration Opens: June 3, 2024

Registration Closes: July 8, 2024

### 40-HOUR FAMILY MEDIATION TRAINING

September 23-27, 2024 - **Cost: \$1,100**

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](mailto:Stephanie.Copeland@arcourts.gov).

### ACCESS AND VISITATION MEDIATION ORIENTATION

January 18, 2024, **Zoom**

This FREE program is open to individuals certified in domestic relations.

Registration Opens: December 11, 2023

Registration Closes: January 1, 2024

### MEDIATOR ETHICS, LAW AND GENERAL PRACTICES IN ARKANSAS

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.

Please contact Stephanie Copeland at [Stephanie.Copeland@arcourts.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Copeland@arcourts.gov) to register

### ACCESS AND VISITATION MEDIATION ORIENTATION

August 15, 2024, **Zoom**

This FREE program is open to individuals certified in domestic relations.

Registration Opens: July 25, 2024

Registration Closes: August 8, 2024

### ACCESS AND VISITATION MEDIATION ADVANCED CME

September 13, 2024, **Zoom**

This FREE program is open **ONLY** TO Certified Access and Visitation Mediators.

Registration Opens: August 23, 2024

Registration Closes: September 6, 2024

# 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 \$1,100

**July 15-19, 2024**

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

- **Registration Opens: June 3, 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



**JUDGE KATHLEEN BELL**  
Helena



**CHASE DUGGER**  
Beebe



**ERIC HUGHES**  
Arkadelphia



**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.

