

FAMILY MEDIATION PRACTICUM PROGRAM

Comprehensive Practicum: Mediator Application Form

What is the Family Practicum Program?

The Family Mediation Practicum Program is a family justice initiative designed to provide an opportunity for trained but inexperienced family mediators to practice mediation skills in a high quality practicum environment. The Practicum is located in New Westminster, B.C. and is sponsored by the BC Dispute Resolution Practicum Society and other groups in the community with funding from The Law Foundation, the BC Ministry of Attorney General, and Justice Canada.

Participants in the Family Mediation Practicum Program can participate in 2 different practicum opportunities. There is the **Family Relations Practicum** that focuses on such family matters as Custody, guardianship, access or parenting plans, child support and special expenses as well as spousal support. In this practicum there is 20 hours of actual family mediation plus 10 hours of feedback for a total of **30 hours** of practicum training with a mentor at the practicum site. The mediations are supervised by highly trained and experienced mentors who assist the mediators to prepare for and conduct each mediation session and provide constructive feedback following each mediation session.

The **NEW Comprehensive Practicum** which has been funded by **The Law Foundation of BC** focuses on Property and Asset division as well as spousal support. This practicum is available in a **12 hour Family Module** and it also includes preparation and debriefing sessions with a mentor.

What are the entry qualifications?

Successful Practicum participants are required to have a minimum of 40 hours of interest-based mediation training, including at least 10 hours of role play. They must have completed at least 24 additional hours of training in family dynamics and family violence and training in the fundamentals of family law. There is an additional pre-requisite for the **Comprehensive Practicum** which is 42 hours of training in property and asset division.

When does the next class start?

The Family Mediation Practicum Program offers orientations sessions throughout the year for mediators that have been accepted in the Program.

How to apply?

Applicants may apply at any time and offers of acceptance will be awarded based on the selection criteria and according to the date the application is received. Qualified applicants on the waiting list will be contacted when space is available. To apply for the Practicum, simply complete the attached application form and send it to the address provided below, with a copy of your résumé, a passport-size photograph, contact information for two references and a cheque for \$400. This will be refundable if you are not accepted for the practicum. Please make the cheque payable to the **BC Dispute Resolution Practicum Society (Family)**.

How to obtain further information?

If you have questions regarding your training qualifications or would like to receive further information, please contact Linda Bonnell, Program Manager, at (604) 516-0788.

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1. NAME: _____
2. ADDRESS: _____
3. WORK PHONE: _____ HOME PHONE: _____
- FAX: _____ E-MAIL: _____

4. When you would be available to start the practicum? _____
5. How did you hear about the practicum? _____

6. Previous Training

Requirement: Successful Practicum participants are required to have a minimum of 40 hours of interest-based mediation training, including at least 10 hours of role play. In addition, you must have completed at least 24 additional hours of training in family dynamics and family violence,¹ training in the fundamentals of family law², and 42 hours of training in property and asset division³. Please use a separate page to list your training, the training institution, and the hours of training for each course. Note that extra points may be given to applicants who have additional training in child development, effects of separation on adults and children, ethics in mediation, child support guidelines, and other mediation courses. Please attach proof of completed training from the training institution

7. Write a few sentences about why you are applying and what you hope to achieve from the Practicum:

8. **Proof of Liability Insurance.** All mediators will be required to obtain \$2,000,000 in liability insurance prior to participating in the Practicum. *If you have insurance*, you may attach a copy of your most recent policy. If you are a member of the Law Society of British Columbia, you may provide a copy of your most recent Certificate of Professional Liability Insurance. *If you do not have insurance at time of application*, you will be required to provide proof of insurance before beginning the Practicum.

¹ Examples of acceptable courses are *Family Dynamics, Abuse and Control for Lawyers and Mediators* offered by Continuing Legal Education; *CORR605: Family Violence: Effects on Separation and Divorce* offered by Justice Institute of BC.

² Courses such as *CORR606: Introduction to the Family Justice Services in BC* offered by the Justice Institute of BC.

³ Courses *CCR292: Mediating the Financial Aspects of Separation* offered by the Justice Institute of BC

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9. **Attach:** Names and telephone numbers for two references, your resume, a passport-size photograph of yourself, and a cheque for \$1,275.00 plus 5% GST (\$1,338.75) payable to **BC Dispute Resolution Practicum Society (Family)**.
10. **Applications must be accompanied by full payment of \$1338.75 (including 5% GST). Once you are accepted into the Program, you will be required to enter into a Practicum Agreement. If you cannot participate in the Practicum after having been accepted into the Program, your request for a refund must be made in writing no less than seven days prior to the first mandatory orientation session, and there will be a \$200 cancellation fee charged. Cancellations fewer than seven days prior to the first mandatory orientation session will be subject to a cancellation fee of \$350.**

Please make cheques payable to the 'BCDRPS - Family'

DATED: _____

SIGNED: _____

Protection of Personal Information: The personal information sought by this application form is being collected for the purpose of determining eligibility for the Family Mediation Practicum Program and for administering the project. The information will not be disclosed to any other person or organization except as authorized by the Personal Information Protection Act. The Society's Personal Information Protection Policy is published on its website at: <http://www.courtmediation.com/society.php>

Submit Applications to:

LINDA BONNELL, PROGRAM MANAGER
FAMILY MEDIATION PRACTICUM PROGRAM
2nd Floor, 519 Seventh Street, New Westminster, B.C. V3M 6A7
For more information phone: (604) 516-0788 Fax: (604) 516-0708
Email: FMPP@drpracticum.com