

Divorce Apprenticeship -- Info for Apprentices

- 20 hours of mediation time with couple and APM
- 11 APMs and 9 apprentices currently signed on
- 2 couples currently signed on; they have consented to mediation with both an APM and an apprentice
- The committee makes the match; couples are not permitted to select their mediator; APMs are not permitted to select their apprentice; apprentices are not permitted to select their APM
- Either Anna-Maria or Risa will contact an apprentice when a couple has signed on; you have option to accept or wait for an APM closer to your home or office
- Upon your acceptance of a match, we will provide a copy of your application to the APM and you will be given the contact information for the APM so you can contact the APM to discuss scheduling of the first session; APM has the final say as to date and length of sessions, but your availability will be given high priority; if you have to miss a session, you will continue with the couple and APM at their next session.
- If you have any issues with the APM that require attention and which cannot be resolved directly with the APM, you should contact us for assistance; we will attempt to resolve the problem or, if appropriate, will re-assign you to another APM (upon availability).
- You will participate in the mediation sessions to the extent that you and the APM determine is productive and appropriate; you will keep notes during each session as you will be responsible for drafting the Memorandum of Understanding; the APM will review and edit the MOU.
- You will keep track of the time you spend in mediation; in conference with the mediator before and after each session and in drafting or editing the MOU. You will be responsible to submit this information along with an evaluation form to the Committee upon the conclusion of each case in order to be eligible to be assigned another case.

- You have no responsibility for collecting any fees from the clients; the APM will collect \$150 from the couple for each hour they spend in mediation. The APM will receive an additional \$50 per hour from NJAPM upon submission of the final evaluation form for each case.
- Confidentiality is essential. You should not disclose to anyone the names of the couples for whom you are providing mediation services, either before, during or after your participation in their mediation sessions. You should not share your MOU with anyone other than the couple and the APM or seek any outside input into the document. At the conclusion of the mediation, however, you are permitted to retain a copy of your MOU (with names redacted) for inclusion in your own application to become an APM or to use as a basis for future MOU's.