

How to become a Mediator—in four steps...

Fair minded? Quick thinker? Believe in conflict resolution? You should be a mediator!

Here is the four-step process toward becoming a Massachusetts qualified mediator with MV Mediation. Schedules and more information on the next pages.

- 1** Participate in Introduction to Mediation – Basics
- 2** Participate in Introduction to Mediation—Components
- 3** Participate in Introduction to Mediation—Practicum & Apprenticeship
- 4** Begin working alongside experienced mediators

Frequently asked questions:

Do I have to do all of it?

No. Many people take only Basics section and decide that is enough for them. Others do one segment one year and come back to finish another year. If you want to be qualified to provide mediation services in Massachusetts, you need to participate in all four, unless you have received training in another state or are a member of the MA Bar, in which case your course work will be dependent upon your previous work and experience.

Who teaches and what kind of courses are they?

These courses are taught collaboratively by experienced mediators on the MV Mediation roster. The courses are interactive and participatory—this is not a ‘sit and git’ type of experience. Although we do record the course, real time participation is required – with some assignments between sessions. Lots of laughs and some profound moments guaranteed.

I may not be able to pay for the courses up front, is that ok?

Sure. Let us know what your circumstances are, and we will work something out. We want all interested people and particularly those from underserved populations to participate. Scholarships for those from immigrant, indigenous, youth and people of color communities and working teachers.

Who takes these courses?

About one third of those who take courses end up adding themselves to the MV Mediation service provider roster. Others use the skills and techniques in their work, family and community lives. As one participant said, “We should have learned this stuff in second grade!”

How do I register?

Go to our website and sign up—there’s a general sign-up form and you can fill in which course you are registering for. Or call/email us to chat—information below.

Mediation Basics—Spring 2024

First of three required sections to be Massachusetts qualified as court or community mediator

Introduction to Mediation Basics	15 hours 6 sessions	Wednesdays 5:30-8 pm via zoom	4/3, 4/10, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15	\$250-\$500																		
<p>Learn the principles and process of facilitative mediation in an interactive and hands-on process. Participants engage in role plays, video review, reading and lively discussions as they learn the basic tenets of community mediation.</p> <p>Materials Provided. Additional Suggested texts: Beer, Packard & Broadfield <u>The Mediator’s Handbook</u> David Hoffman et al <u>Mediation: A Practice Guide</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Wednesday April 3</td> <td>Session One</td> <td>What is and is not mediation?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday April 10</td> <td>Session Two</td> <td>How do mediators set the stage?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday April 24</td> <td>Session Three</td> <td>How do mediators listen to the story?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday May 1</td> <td>Session Four</td> <td>How do mediators ask questions?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday May 8</td> <td>Session Five</td> <td>How does the mediator help negotiation?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday May 15</td> <td>Session Six</td> <td>How does the mediator guide the agreement?</td> </tr> </table>					Wednesday April 3	Session One	What is and is not mediation?	Wednesday April 10	Session Two	How do mediators set the stage?	Wednesday April 24	Session Three	How do mediators listen to the story?	Wednesday May 1	Session Four	How do mediators ask questions?	Wednesday May 8	Session Five	How does the mediator help negotiation?	Wednesday May 15	Session Six	How does the mediator guide the agreement?
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Mediation Advanced— Spring 2024

Second of three required sections toward qualification as Massachusetts court or community mediator

Introduction to Mediation Qualification	15 hours 6 sessions	Wednesdays 5:30-8 pm via zoom	5/22, 5/29, 6/5, 6/12, 6/19, 6/26	\$250-\$500																		
<p>Focus on mediation complexity and dilemmas including court, diversity, impasse, and ethics. Participants complete the course by mediating a full role play mediation case and receive collaborative feedback and support toward achieving professional level mediation practice.</p> <p>Materials Provided. Additional Suggested texts: Beer, Packard & Broadfield <u>The Mediator’s Handbook</u> David Hoffman et al <u>Mediation: A Practice Guide</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Wednesday May 22</td> <td>Session One</td> <td>How do mediators mitigate impasse?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday May 29</td> <td>Session Two</td> <td>How do mediators view biases & diversity?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday June 5</td> <td>Session Three</td> <td>How do mediators use neuroscience?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday June 12</td> <td>Session Four</td> <td>How do mediators approach emotions?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday June 19</td> <td>Session Five</td> <td>How do mediators balance power imbalances?</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday June 26</td> <td>Session Six</td> <td>How do mediators handle ethical dilemmas?</td> </tr> </table>					Wednesday May 22	Session One	How do mediators mitigate impasse?	Wednesday May 29	Session Two	How do mediators view biases & diversity?	Wednesday June 5	Session Three	How do mediators use neuroscience?	Wednesday June 12	Session Four	How do mediators approach emotions?	Wednesday June 19	Session Five	How do mediators balance power imbalances?	Wednesday June 26	Session Six	How do mediators handle ethical dilemmas?
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Mediator practicum/apprenticeship is the third required section for those who want to mediate with MVMP—observation, apprenticeship and mentoring available for those working toward qualification. An additional one-hour briefing describing the Massachusetts court system will be provided before taking on a court derived mediation case.