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# Child Custody And Visitation Mediation Program

Helping Parents Resolve Custody  
And Visitation Disputes

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The **Alaska Court System** is pleased to offer mediation services for parents who have a divorce, dissolution, child custody, or visitation case pending in court, or who want to modify an existing court order or decree.

Mediation is a voluntary, cooperative, confidential problem-solving process that is often useful for resolving custody or visitation problems and creating co-parenting agreements.

In this program, experienced mediators assist parents to work out agreements acceptable to both parents. Parents maintain control of the decisions throughout the process. The parenting plan that is developed usually becomes part of the divorce, dissolution, or custody agreement.

**Mediation is confidential.** Neither the mediator nor the parents may disclose to the court what is discussed in mediation. Only your agreements may be shared with the court.

**Parents with a combined net annual income of \$100,000 or less are eligible for this program.** There is no cost for parents for up to 10 hours of the mediator's time.

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**When domestic violence is an issue,** the safety of the victim is essential. This program is not available if a domestic violence restraining order is in effect. If you are concerned about violence, or abusive or controlling behavior, request a private session with the mediator. The mediators are trained in domestic violence issues and will help you decide whether you can participate safely and effectively.

**Please consider mediation as an option.** In many cases mediation holds the potential for a win/win solution for parents and for children.

**If you wish to participate** in this program, you or your attorney can obtain a form to request mediation services **(Form No. DR-405)** from your court, or on the court website: [www.courts.alaska.gov/forms/pub-26.pdf](http://www.courts.alaska.gov/forms/pub-26.pdf)

**If you are not eligible for this program,** but still wish to consider mediation, you will find listings for mediators in the Yellow Pages under “Mediation.”

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Child custody and visitation mediation programs are available in the following courts:

**Anchorage**

**Bethel**

**Dillingham**

**Fairbanks**

**Homer**

**Juneau**

**Kenai**

**Ketchikan**

**Kodiak**

**Palmer**

**Sitka**

