

Mediation Policy

The Guardian ad Litem Project maintains a limited list of guardians ad litem for children appointed on Mediation cases. All guardians ad litem for children appointed on Mediation cases shall meet the following qualifications and perform the following duties in addition to the duties set forth in the Court's Local Rules, Guardian ad Litem Guidelines, the Ohio Revised Code, and the Rules of Superintendence:

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Be a qualified guardian ad litem pursuant to Guardian ad Litem Project policies and Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court Local Rules.
2. Receive a minimum of three (3) hours of Advanced Training on the Mediation of Juvenile Court cases, and attend subsequent Advanced Trainings provided by the Guardian ad Litem Project or the Court.

Ongoing Requirements and Duties:

1. Within seven (7) days of receipt of the guardian ad litem appointment order and any available contact information for the parties, contact the mediator assigned to the case, schedule the mediation, and provide the mediator with the date by which the guardian ad litem expects to complete the investigation.
2. Prior to the scheduled mediation, conduct a complete investigation of the case.
3. Attend and participate in the mediation.
4. Within three (3) business days after the completed mediation, whether the parties reach a final agreement or not, complete and submit either a written report or the "Mediation Guardian ad Litem Statement" form supplied by the Mediation Department to the Mediation Department at 1910 Carnegie Avenue, Lower Level, Cleveland, Ohio 44115.
5. Once appointed as guardian ad litem on a Mediation case, the guardian ad litem's appointment continues until discharged by order of Court or by the filing of a final order in this matter as indicated in Section 2151.281(G) of the Ohio Revised Code.
6. Follow Guideline 11 in filing motions for fees.