

On October 25, 2023, the Nebraska Supreme Court approved the following rule amendments to the Rules of the District Court of the Second Judicial District, specifically “Rule 2-9. Mediation in Domestic Relations Cases”:

District 2

Rules of the District Court of the Second Judicial District

....

Rule 2-9. Mediation in Domestic Relations Cases

....

C. The Nebraska Office of Dispute Resolution maintains a list of mediation centers approved by the Dispute Resolution Advisory ~~Council~~ Council found here: <https://supremecourt.nebraska.gov/programs-services/mediation>. These mediators must meet State of Nebraska (or equivalent) standards for training in order to qualify. The following requirements apply to all participating mediators:

(1) Each participating mediator shall comply with Nebraska Law on mediation, including the Nebraska Parenting Act. Additionally, any mediator qualifying as a specialized mediator, who conducts specialized alternative dispute resolution, shall meet all requirements set forth by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-2938(3), or any amendment thereto. All mediators and/or specialized mediator must be willing to agree to the court requirements for participation, and each mediator will be asked to sign a statement indicating acknowledgment and acceptance of the requirements.

(2) Court-approved mediators will determine their own fees. In order to be on the list of court-approved mediators, a mediator must agree to use a sliding-scale fee of \$25 to ~~\$75~~ \$150 per person per hour, determined on the basis of what each party is able to pay. Court-approved mediators must also agree to take pro bono cases on an “as needed” basis. The Court will determine the need for such pro bono services, so that the burden of these cases is equitably distributed among the participating mediators.

....