

**Type of Mediator:** 1) Attorney mediator—appointed from a list of qualified mediators maintained by the Court. They must be in good standing with the Ohio Supreme Court; have a minimum of five (5) years of experience; and completed 12 hours of basic mediation training or such other qualifications satisfactory to the Court. 2) Magistrates—may appoint a Magistrate not previously referred the case. All magistrates have completed the 12 hours of basic mediation training.

**How do cases get to mediation?** Cases can be referred to mediation upon the Court’s own order, a party’s motion or by agreement of the parties. The Court must approve all referrals to mediation, which is done by the issuance of an “Order and Notice of Mediation.”

**How do parties request mediation?** They can jointly agree to the referral or any party can request the referral by motion.

**Is there a cost, not included in the filing fee, to the parties for mediation?** A Mediation session is defined as a 4 hour period. If a Magistrate is appointed as the mediator there is no cost.

If an attorney is appointed, the Court will pay the mediator’s fee for the first mediation session, up to a maximum of \$700, unless otherwise ordered. The parties are equally responsible for paying ½ of the remaining mediator’s fee for the first mediation session. If continued mediation sessions are necessary, the mediator’s fee shall be borne equally by the parties, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

**Is pre-filing mediation available?** No

*Probate:*

|   |   |   |                                     |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| X | Adoptions   |   | Marriage Applications               |
| X | Change of Name                                      |   | Mental Illness & Mental Retardation |
| X | Conservatorships                                    |   | Minors’ Settlements                 |
| X | Decedents’ Estates                                  | X | Testamentary Trusts                 |
| X | Delayed Registration of Birth & Correction of Birth |   | Wrongful Death                      |
| X | Guardianships of Incompetents                       | X | Other – Civil actions               |
| X | Guardianships of Minors                             |   |                                     |