



March 11, 2021

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Mediation Educational Workshop

In order to be a mediator in the state of Michigan, participation in the 40-hour, general civil mediation training is required by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO). Northern Community Mediation (NCM) will be offering this educational opportunity in May. Five of the 40 hours will be done asynchronously. In other words, participants will have specific assignments that they will do on their own. The other 35 hours will take place via Zoom.

1) Participants will learn about conflict: its causes, levels of conflict, response to conflict, conflict management styles, self-assessment, and the comparison of various dispute resolution processes. 2) The second focus will be on communication skills: listening, empathy, paraphrasing and bias awareness. 3) Negotiation skills will examine positions vs. interests, separating the people from the problem, and the identification and evaluation of options. 4) The mediation process itself will be examined: opening statements, joint sessions, caucuses, problem solving, agreement writing and closing statements. 5) Mediation skills will be honed: neutrality, impartiality, trust building, negotiating and communication skills, room arrangements, problem parties and trouble-shooting tips.

The synchronous class via Zoom will be held from 8:30am to 4:30pm with one hour for lunch on May 12, 13, 14, 20 and 21. The training is open to both attorneys and non-attorneys. To receive the certification, attendance all five days is required. The fee for individuals who are willing to mediate exclusively for NCM or another Citizen Dispute Resolution Program (CDRP) center in the state is \$50. Otherwise, the fee is \$600. For more information and the registration form, go to <https://www.northernmediation.org/workshops-trainings/> on the NCM website or call the NCM office at 231.487.1771.

Northern Community Mediation is a non-profit organization that provides an alternative means of resolving conflict. Trained mediators, who meet with the parties involved in a dispute, facilitate so that the individuals themselves can resolve the conflict

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