
A. NATIONAL ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDIATORS

1) Minimum National Standards for Mediators

In order to qualify for accreditation as mediator with NABFAM, an applicant must:

- a) Provide proof of having met the following training requirements:
 - i) Training in an accredited mediation training course, with assessment and certification of his /her attendance and competence;
 - ii) Completion of NABFAM prescribed additional training;
- b) Provide proof of having met the following practice requirements:

Participation in a minimum of at least 3 supervised mediation sessions; each session must be a minimum of 1 hour.
- c) Be an accredited and paid up member with one or more member organisations of NABFAM.
- d) In writing confirm that he/she:
 - i) Has not been convicted of any criminal offence against children and any other criminal offence in the past 2 years;
 - ii) Subjects him/herself to the Code of Conduct and Ethics, the complaints and disciplinary procedures of the accredited NABFAM member organisation(s) with which he/she is affiliated.

2) Application for Accreditation

- a) An Applicant who seeks accreditation as a Mediator must apply for affiliation to an accredited NABFAM member organisation. Each such application must be accompanied with full details and proof of having met NABFAM's minimum national standards, as set out in paragraph 1 above.
- b) The NABFAM member organisation will consider the application to confirm that the Applicant has met NABFAM's minimum national accreditation requirements. NABFAM member organisations are entitled to introduce additional requirements for affiliation. Any Applicant will have to satisfy all those requirements prior to obtaining affiliation.
- c) In all cases where an Applicant has met the minimum national standards and has been granted affiliation by a NABFAM member organisation, the NABFAM member organisation must:
 - i) Provide a written statement to that effect to NABFAM, and request that the Applicant be registered as an accredited Mediator;
 - ii) Pay the candidate's annual NABFAM registration fee over to NABFAM;
- d) Upon receipt of such a request the Board must register the Applicant as an accredited Mediator, and issue an accreditation certificate to the Mediator, provided that the Board may request the NABFAM member organisation to provide further details or proof that the Applicant has met all of the requirements, before it so registers the Applicant.
- e) The same process shall apply for continued accreditation of mediators;

- f) No Applicant will be considered for membership or accreditation by NABFAM unless they are a member of a NABFAM member organisation.

3) Recognition of Prior Learning and Experience

Where a Mediator has been trained through a training program that is not accredited by NABFAM, the mediator may apply for accreditation in one of the following ways:

- a) Undergo training through a NABFAM accredited training program; or
- b) If the Applicant is applying as an experienced Mediator specialising in family matters provide proof of:-
- i. 2 years' experience as a mediator specialising in family matters;
 - ii. Having completed a minimum of 10 cases (at least 80 hours) with clients in the context of family matters;
 - iii. Two Memoranda of Understanding or Agreements that the Applicant has written for his/her clients at the conclusion of the mediation process. The Applicant must maintain confidentiality. All identifying features (names of clients, addresses, birthdates, file number) are to be removed prior to sending the copies of the documents to NABFAM.
 - iv. Two letters of reference from two NABFAM accredited mediators.

Each such application will be considered on its merits. Any decision made by the Board, that an Applicant is required to undergo additional training in order to qualify for accreditation shall be final.