

Interested in Becoming an FFA Mediator?

In Washington State mediators can mediate Foreclosure Fairness Act (FFA) mediations if they meet certain minimum requirements and are approved by Department of Commerce (Commerce). (<u>RCW 61.24.169</u>)

If you are interested in becoming an FFA mediator in Washington State, please send us an email at <u>ForeclosureMediation@commerce.wa.gov</u>. Include your name, mailing address, phone number, and email. We will add you to our "interested mediators" mailing list. We will notify you when we will start planning our next FFA mediator training. <u>At this time, we do not have a tentative date for our next FFA application and training period.</u>

Who is eligible?

Mediators who meet the statutory requirements identified in $\frac{\text{RCW } 61.24.169(1)}{\text{MCW } 61.24.169(1)}$ will be eligible to apply to become an FFA mediator. To meet the requirements, the applicant:

- 1. Must have completed 10 mediations; AND
- 2. Must have accomplished <u>one</u> of the following:
 - Completed a 40-hour mediation course AND 60 hours of mediating
 - o Has 200 hours of mediating experience; AND
- 3. Is <u>one</u> of the following:
 - o Attorney who is active member of the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA)
 - Employee of a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved housing counselor agency approved by the Washington State Housing Finance Commission (HFC)
 - o Employee or volunteer of a Dispute Resolution Center (DRC) under Chapter 7.75 RCW
 - Retired judge of Washington courts
 - o Other experienced mediator

What else will be needed?

Mediators who meet the statutory requirements (listed above) will also need to complete the following:

1. Submit a Mediator Application and Attend a Commerce FFA Mediator Training

Commerce requires that mediators take FFA-specific training <u>before</u> they can be considered for approval to conduct FFA mediations in Washington. Commerce's last FFA mediator training was conducted in May 2013. At this time, we do not have a tentative date for our next application and training period. If you join our "interested mediators" waiting list, we will notify you when we will begin accepting new applications.

2. Co-Mediate a Minimum of Three (3) FFA Mediations

Commerce requires that applicant mediators co-mediate a minimum of 3 FFA mediations. This can be accomplished <u>before or after</u> satisfying the training requirements described above, but <u>before</u> the applicant mediator can be considered for approval to conduct FFA mediations in Washington. Please contact <u>ForeclosureMediation@commerce.wa.gov</u> about specific co-mediation parameters.

Commerce reserves the right to approve mediators to conduct FFA mediations.