



Parent Coordination for Parents in Family Court

Separation, Divorce, Parentage,
Dissolution of Civil Union,
Blended Families, Post-Divorce

Parent Coordination requires a court order to participate.

The program is designed for high-conflict families and families that have experienced abuse.

ABOUT PARENT COORDINATION

Parent Coordination is a non-confidential and child-centered process in which separated parents resolve differences about their children with the help of a trained professional.

The Parent Coordinator's goal is to minimize the children's exposure to conflict and danger.

Parent Coordination gives both parents and children a chance to be heard.

Parent Coordinators also assist parents and children in connecting with other resources in their community for help and support.

THE PARENT COORDINATOR AND THE COURT'S ROLE

The process begins with an Order from the court.

The parent coordinator will meet with each parent separately. Then the parent coordinator will meet with the children. The Parent Coordinator often consults with counselors, teachers, and others who know the children.

After detailed and specific agreements have been made with the help of the parent coordinator, a document reflecting those arrangements is then filed with the court.

The goal of Parent Coordination is to keep children protected from adult conflict and violence.



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PARENT COORDINATION CAN HELP AFTER A DIVORCE OR AFTER A FINAL ORDER IS ISSUED

Situations often change as children grow and develop. Sometimes parents need help in resolving these changes. Parent Coordination may be ordered as a way to help parents in resolving difficult issues that evolve over time.

Parent coordination can occur before, during, or after a separation or divorce.

PARENT COORDINATION SORTS OUT THE ISSUES OF FAMILIES IN CONFLICT

Parent Coordination helps:

- Separated parents, married or not
- Parents dissolving a civil union
- Parents that are already divorced

The Parent Coordinator helps parents work out issues such as:

- When and how the children will be with each parent
- Arrangements for pick-up and drop-off of the children
- How parents will communicate with each other

Additional issues may also be discussed during Parent Coordination.

PARENT COORDINATORS

The Parent Coordinators are trained and experienced professionals under contract with the Office of the Court Administrator. They provide a specialized type of dispute resolution to high-conflict, income eligible parents on a sliding fee basis.

Parent Coordinators are able to slide the fee based upon the parent's income.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Further details of the program can be found on the program website:

<http://www.vermontjudiciary.org/mediation>



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PARENT COORDINATION SLIDING FEE SCALE

Parent Coordination is offered according to each individual parent's household income. The Parent Coordinator determines the fee per person after reviewing the Application for Subsidy form (with proof of income attached).

VERMONT FAMILY COURT MEDIATION PROGRAM

Subsidized Fee Scale

June 2006

Household Income	Fee (per person/per hour)
Above \$30,000	\$80
\$30,000	\$30
\$27,000	\$25
\$24,000	\$20
\$21,000	\$15
\$18,000	\$10

Chelsea Courthouse

2006