

Mediation is fair and gives you choices and control.

Going through a divorce will likely be one of the most significant and stressful life events you will ever face.

It's not only devastating emotionally and a complete upheaval to "life as you know it," but the divorce process itself, if not handled properly, can be long, drawn-out and destructive to everyone involved, including your children.

In divorce, no one wins.

But how you move through - and eventually beyond a divorce is your choice.

So wouldn't you want to choose the divorce option that's peaceful, cost-effective and best for you and your family?

Of course you would!

Ready to learn about divorce mediation?

What is Mediation?

During your time together, the mediator will actively engage you and your spouse in a series of discussions on all the necessary issues. This will include financial issues involving the division of assets and debts as well as making sure each of you can meet your living expenses. If you have minor children discussions will include a parenting plan and how the children's expenses will be shared.

The mediator will help identify the relevant issues that pertain to your unique situation. Listen to your goals, needs and concerns.

And ultimately help you come to all decisions and agreements required to peacefully end your marriage.

As you and your spouse come to agreements, a document called a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will be drafted by the mediator and will contain all of the agreements made during mediation sessions on each of the relevant topics as well as a host of other issues related to your situation.

One spouse cannot "win" at the expense of the other as resolutions must emerge from the mediation process with a settlement created and acceptable to **both of you**.

In addition to discussing the issues necessary to end your marriage, mediation can also help you resolve other matters such as how to tell the children you're getting a divorce, who will care for the family pet, etc. It can even assist you with your transition into life after divorce.

No other divorce option comes close to offering the advantages that mediation provides.

Almost anyone can mediate...

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All it takes are these things:

1. You and your spouse are both willing to voluntarily attend and actively participate in mediation.

If one of you wants to mediate and one of you does not, then unfortunately, mediation will not be a viable option for your divorce.

2. You and your spouse are both comfortable and interested in making your own decisions.

Because mediation follows the principles of self-determination, you and your spouse acknowledge that you will be in complete control of the decisions you make.

The mediator will help you identify the issues and bring options to the table, but, will not give you advice. Or tell you what to do.

3. You and your spouse are both mentally capable of making your own decisions.

Your mediator will provide you with information you need in order to make the decisions required. But you must be of sound mind and have the mental capacity to make them.

If you or your spouse is mentally incapacitated, mediation will not be a viable option.

4. You and your spouse are both willing to be transparent and engage in a good faith negotiation.

Because mediation is a transparent process, you and your spouse will both need to be prepared to engage in a good faith negotiation.

That means you'll need to reveal and openly disclose all relevant information, whether financial or otherwise, to the mediator and to your spouse. And ensure that the information is accurate, complete and truthful to the best of your knowledge.

Unlike an attorney-driven divorce, in mediation there is no win or lose, taking sides, us versus them.

The focus remains on respectful dialog and mutually-agreeable problem-solving. Instead of who can shout the loudest or bully the other party into giving them what they want.

Mediation encourages you to put away the hurt feelings of the past, focus on the future and move on with your lives.

Because you and your spouse will be fully in control of the process, you can move through the divorce process at your own pace, not that of attorneys or a court schedule, and move on with your life.

Mediation is much more efficient and less stressful.

Mediation costs a fraction of a lawyer-driven divorce. With mediation, you and your spouse will work with one mediator who is dedicated to helping you both reach a resolution as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Mediation truly is a kinder, more dignified, human process.