

## ALABAMA

**Organization:** Alabama Center for Dispute Resolution  
**Contact Person:** Judith Keegan  
**Title:** Executive Director  
**Email Address:** judy.keegan@alabar.org  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.alabamaADR.org>

**Description of Program:**

Responsible for development and implementation of ADR in courts, communities, businesses, agencies & schools of Alabama.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

AL Stat, 6-6-20(Med); 6-6-1(Arb)

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Code of Ethics for Mediators; Standards for Mediators & Arbitrators; Civil Court Mediation Rules; Appellate Mediation Rule 55

**Special Programs:**

Appellate Mediation, Restorative Justice, Small Claims Volunteer Mediator Program, Criminal Mediation

## ALASKA

**Organization:** Alaska Court System  
**Contact Person:** Karen Largent  
**Title:** Dispute Resolution Coordinator  
**Email Address:** klargent@courts.state.ak.us  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.state.ak.us/courts/mediation.htm>

**Description of Program:**

A variety of programs are offered in courts throughout the state.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

AK Stat, Ch. 9.43, Ch. 25.20, Sec. 23.40.190

**Relevant Rule(s):**

AK RCP 16(a)(5), 100

## ARIZONA

**Court:** Arizona Supreme Court

**Description of Program:**

Under ARCP, Rule 16(g)(1), effective December 1, 2001, the court may direct parties in any action to submit their dispute to a court authorized ADR Program. Under Rule 16(g)(2), parties to disputes have a duty to consider ADR, confer with one another about using an ADR process within 90 days of the first appearance, and report the outcome of their conference to the court within 30 days after their conference. Judges will issue a request form, corresponding to a specific ADR Program, to refer a matter to ADR. Currently, court-annexed compulsory arbitration is under the Courts Civil Division. The Alternative Dispute Resolution Fund was created in 1991 to fund local, regional or statewide projects that establish, maintain, improve or enhance ADR programs in the superior court and justice of the peace courts (A.R.S. §12-135).

**Relevant Statute(s):**

AZ Stat, 12-1501 (Arb), 134(Med), 135 et seq

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Rule 16(g)

---

**Court:** Arizona Superior Court in Maricopa County

**Web Site(s):** <http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/adr/programs/programs.asp>

**Description of Program:**

Maricopa County has a major mediation program: 1500 cases are mediated each year in the limited jurisdiction courts, and 7,500 domestic relations cases are mediated each year in Superior Court. Civil Court Settlement Conferences, Civil Court Short trials. Family Court Settlement Conferences, Justice Court Mediation Program, and Probate Mediation programs are available.

**Relevant Rule(s):** Rule 16(g)

---

**Court:** Arizona Superior Court in Yavapai County

**Contact Person:** Kathy McCormick

**Title:** Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinator

**Email Address:** KMcCormi@courts.az.gov

**Description of Program:** The court provides conciliation, custody and access mediation, civil mediation, Dependency and Severence mediations and Victim Offender mediations.

## ARKANSAS

**Organization:** Arkansas Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission  
**Contact Person:** Jennifer Jones Taylor  
**Title:** Coordinator  
**Email Address:** jennifer.taylor@akansas.gov  
**Web Site(s):** <http://courts.state.ar.us/courts/adr.html>

### **Description of Program:**

We are responsible for providing education to the courts, other government agencies and the public on the methods, advantages and applications of ADR; for assisting state and local courts and governmental and other agencies with the development and implementation of alternative dispute resolution programs; and for the certification, professional conduct, discipline and training of court mediators.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

AR Code 16-7-101 et seq; 9-12-322, 16-108-101 et. seq

### **Relevant Rule(s):**

Requirements for the Certification of Mediators for Circuit Courts, Procedures for the Discipline of Mediators, Requirements for the Conduct of Mediations and Mediators, Minimum Standards for Basic Mediation Training

### **Special Programs:**

Statewide family mediation program focusing on custody, visitation and parenting issues

## CALIFORNIA

**Organization:** California Administrative Office of the Courts  
**Contact Person:** Heather Anderson  
**Title:** Senior Attorney  
**Email Address:** Heather.Anderson@jud.ca.gov  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/adr/>  
<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/adr/tcadr.htm>

### **Description of Program:**

The Administrative office of the courts does not directly administer any ADR programs - these programs are administered by the individual courts. However, the AOC's governing body, the Judicial Council, sets statewide rules of court and forms for court ADR programs and also periodically evaluates court ADR programs.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

Civil Proc Code Sec 1280+(Arb), Sec 1775+ (Med)  
[www.legalinfo.ca.gov/calaw.htm](http://www.legalinfo.ca.gov/calaw.htm)

### **Relevant Rule(s):**

General rules fo ADR in civil cases: California Rules of Court, rules 201.7, 201.9, 212 and 1580 et. Seq. Mediation: California Rules of Court rules 1620 et seq.

---

**Court:** Marin County Superior Court  
**Title:** Court Process Specialist/Arbitration Calendar  
**Email Address:** [ADR@marincourt.org](mailto:ADR@marincourt.org)  
**Web Site(s):** <http://co.marin.ca.us/depts/MC/main/index.cfm>

---

**Court:** San Diego Superior Court  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.sandiego.courts.ca.gov/superior/courts/adr.html>

### **Description of Program:**

It is the court's expectation that each case will attempt mediation or other ADR process before trial. Program responsible for design, implementation, panel management and education.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

CCP 1730, CCP 1775, Ethics rule 1620, CCP 1141.10, CPC 212

### **Special Programs:**

Probate mediation program

---

**Court:** San Mateo Superior Court  
**Organization:** Multi-option ADR Project  
**Contact Person:** Sheila Purcell  
**Title:** ADR Director  
**Email Address:** spurcell@sanmateocourt.org  
**Web Site(s):** www.sanmateocourt.org

**Description of Program:**

All kinds of cases referred and assessed for possible use of ADR with assistance of court ADR staff.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

The civil program comports with Calif. Rules of Conduct for Mediators in Court-Connected Mediation Programs for Civil Cases 3.850-3.868; Evidence Code 1115-1128, and 703.5; Calif. Rules of Court 1580-1580.3; CCP 1141.10-1141.31 Judicial Arbitration; CCP 1281.85 Ethics Standards for Neutral Arbitrators; Rules of Court 1405.5 Juvenile Dependency Mediation Program Requirements.

**Special Programs:**

Bilingual Interpreters available. Pro bono and modest means assistance available to those eligible based on simple one page income-based screening. Dependency and Delinquency programs in the state court system are unique. Community mediation center volunteers handle the cases. Family law program has two prongs: 1 staff mediator and 1 private list.

---

**Court:** Contra Costa County Superior Court  
**Contact Person:** John R. Helie  
**Title:** ADR Programs Director  
**Web Site(s):** www.cc-courts.org

**Description of Program:**

We provide comprehensive ADR services to limited and unlimited jurisdiction civil cases and probate cases.

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Appendix C, Local Court Rules: Sections 1 through 7

**Special Programs:**

Collaborate with community programs funded by DRPA to provide small claims, unlawful detainer, and civil harassment mediation services in the courts.

---

**Court:** Santa Barbara Superior Court  
**Organization:** Court-Administered Dispute Resolution  
**Email Address:** cadre@sbcourts.org  
**Web Site(s):** www.sbcadre.org

**Description of Program:** See [www.sbcadre.org](http://www.sbcadre.org)

**Relevant Statute(s):** CCP 1775 et seq

**Relevant Rule(s):** SBSC Local Rule 1102

## **COLORADO**

**Organization:** Colorado Judicial Branch Office of Dispute Resolution  
**Contact Person:** Cynthia Savage  
**Title:** Director  
**Email Address:** [cynthia.savage@judicial.state.co.us](mailto:cynthia.savage@judicial.state.co.us)  
**Web Site(s):** [www.courts.state.co.us/chs/court/mediation/odrindex.htm](http://www.courts.state.co.us/chs/court/mediation/odrindex.htm)

**Description of Program:**

Statewide court ADR program. Program Design, Implementation, Administration, and Evaluation, including direct provision of ADR services to parties, primarily (but not exclusively) within the state court system. Services provided for cases not filed in court, in addition to services for filed cases. Case types include domestic relations, civil, juvenile, dependency and neglect (child welfare), and criminal cases.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

Section 13-22-301, et seq., C.R.S. (ADR), -201, C.R.S. (Arb).

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Office of Dispute Resolution Policies and Procedures Manual; various local court rules and procedures.

**Special Programs:**

Truancy Mediation and Family Group Conferencing, Dependency and Neglect Mediation (child welfare), One Day Jury Trial, Early Neutral Evaluation in felony cases

## CONNECTICUT

**Organization:** Connecticut Court Annexed Mediation Program  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.jud.ct.gov/external/super/altdisp.htm>

**Description of Program:**

Upon agreement of the parties, any Civil or Family Matter is eligible to be referred to a private ADR program. When a case is referred all court proceedings, including short calendar assignment will be stayed. The court will set a time limit on the duration of the referral consistent with applicable rules and statutes. A directory of private ADR providers is available in each Judicial District Clerk's Office. At the request of the parties any Civil or Family Matters is eligible to be referred to court-annexed ADR programs.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

CT Chap 909 (Arb) (Title 52-408); C.G.S. Section 51-5a

## DELAWARE

**Organization:** Superior Court of Delaware  
**Contact Person:** Margaret Derrickson  
**Title:** Alternative Dispute Resolution Director  
**Email Address:** Margaret.Derrickson@state.de.us  
**Web Site(s):** <http://courts.state.de.us/superior>

### **Description of Program:**

All civil actions in which trial is available, monetary damages are sought, any nonmonetary claims are nominal, and counsel for claimant has not certified that damages exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) exclusive of costs and interest, are subject to compulsory alternative dispute resolution. There are exceptions which are listed in Civil Rule 16.1 (d), but even for these exceptions, the parties may stipulate to a form of ADR.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

Superior Court Civil Rule 16.1

### **Relevant Rule(s):**

Rule 16.1 includes guidelines for Certification; Code of Judicial Conduct; Confidentiality; and the use of the Delaware Uniform Rules of Evidence, among others.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**Court:** Superior Court of the District of Columbia  
**Organization:** Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division  
**Contact Person:** Jeannie Adams  
**Title:** Director  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.dccourts.gov/dccourts/superior/multi/index.jsp>

### **Description of Program:**

The Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division (Multi-Door) helps parties settle disputes through mediation and other types of appropriate dispute resolution (ADR), including arbitration, case evaluation and conciliation. The name "Multi-Door" comes from the multi-door courthouse concept, which envisions one courthouse with multiple dispute resolution doors or programs. Cases are referred through the appropriate door for resolution. The Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division of the D.C. Superior Court assists parties to reach agreements that meet their interests, preserve relationships, and save time and money. Mediators and dispute resolution specialists are trained at Multi-Door to serve in a wide range of cases, from civil to small claims, to family.

### **Relevant Rule(s):**

D.C. SCR-Civil Rule 16

## FLORIDA

**Organization:** Florida Dispute Resolution Center  
**Contact Person:** Sharon Press  
**Title:** Director  
**Email Address:** PressS@flcourts.org  
**Web Site(s):** [http://www.flcourts.org/gen\\_public/adr/index.shtml](http://www.flcourts.org/gen_public/adr/index.shtml)

### **Description of Program:**

Provide technical assistance to courts wishing to establish mediation and/or arbitraiton programs; conduct Supreme Court Certified Training and Continuing Mediator (and legal) education programs (county mediation and court-ordered arbitration); Certify mediators; Certify and monitor mediation and arbitration training programs.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

Fl Stat, Ch 44, sections 39.01, 39.307, 39.4075, 39.521, 39.601 61.183

### **Relevant Rule(s):**

FL.R.C.P. 1.700, et seq., , Florida Rules for Certified and Court- Appointed Mediators 10.100 et seq; Florida Family Family Law Rules of Procedure 12.740-12.741; Florida Juvenile Rules of Procedure 8.290

### **Special Programs:**

Court mediation programs in county and circuit trial courts (includes small claims, all civil cases, domestic relations and juvenile dependency); appellate mediation; trial court arbitration programs; innovations as funded through the ADR innovation grants program

## GEORGIA

**Organization:** Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution  
**Contact Person:** Shinji Morokuma  
**Title:** Director  
**Email Address:** gaodr@gasupreme.us  
**Web Site(s):** www.godr.org

### **Description of Program:**

The Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution is the policy-making body appointed by the Georgia Supreme Court to oversee the development of court-connected ADR programs in Georgia. The Commission, working through its staff at the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution, has created a statewide plan for ADR in Georgia. This plan enables any superior, state, probate, magistrate or juvenile court in Georgia to offer litigants alternatives to trial under provisions set forth in the Georgia Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules and the filing fee surcharge legislation which supports the administration of local ADR programs.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

GA Stat 15-23 (ADR Act), 9-9-1+ (Arb)

### **Relevant Rule(s):**

Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules (PDF) Complete Rules with Appendix:  
[http://www.godr.org/rules\\_statutes.html](http://www.godr.org/rules_statutes.html); Appendix A: (PDF) Uniform Rules for Dispute Resolution Programs; Appendix B: (PDF) Requirements for Qualifications and Training of Neutrals; Appendix C, Chapter 1: (PDF) Ethical Standards for Neutrals (Posted 01-09-2006); Appendix C, Chapter 2: (PDF) Ethics Procedures

## HAWAII

**Court:** Hawaii  
**Organization:** Center for Alternative Dispute Resolutuion  
**Contact Person:** Pamela B. Martin  
**Email Address:** [pamela.b.martin@courts.state.hi.us](mailto:pamela.b.martin@courts.state.hi.us)  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.courts.state.hi.us/index.jsp>

### **Description of Program:**

Hawaii's Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) was established to help mediate complex litigations, and administrative and judicial disputes that affect the public interest or that involve agencies of state and local government. The Center: Designs and assists with implementation of dispute resolution systems for the judicial, legislative, and executive branches of government (state and county). Mediates and facilitates a limited number of disputes dealing with public policy or complex litigation referred by judges, legislators, agency heads, or elected or appointed government officials. Manages the Judiciary's Purchase of Services contract with the community mediation centers for mediation and dispute resolution services. Promotes ADR through research, training, education programs, forums, publication of newsletters, consumer guides, and other informational materials.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

HI Stat Chap 613 (ADR Ctr), 658 (Arb)

### **Special Programs:**

Volunteer Settlement Master for divorcing couples. The VSM will meet with the divorcing couple and their attorneys for up to 3½ hours, or longer, to give them an opportunity to express their points of view. The VSM will not take sides or make decisions for the parties. Instead, using his or her skills and experience as a family law attorney, the VSM will try to help the parties reach an agreement that is fair, and that everyone can accept. The VSM guides the process; the parties create the agreement.

## IDAHO

**Court:** Idaho Supreme Court

**Web Site(s):** [www2.state.id.us/cao/service.asp?service\\_id=3](http://www2.state.id.us/cao/service.asp?service_id=3)

**Description of Program:**

The court has discretion to order a case to mediation in all civil cases. Other processes offered include Parenting coordination, arbitration, and settlement conferences.

## ILLINOIS

**Organization:** Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts  
**Contact Person:** Anthony F. Trapani  
**Title:** Staff Attorney  
**Email Address:** ttrapani@court.state.il.us  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.state.il.us/court/Administrative/default.htm>

**Description of Program:**

The Illinois Supreme Court and Illinois General Assembly created court-annexed mandatory arbitration to reduce the backlog of civil cases and to provide litigants with a forum other than the trial courts in which their complaint could be more expeditiously resolved by an impartial factfinder.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

735 ILCS 5/2 - 1001A et seq.

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Illinois Supreme Court Rule 86 et seq.

---

**Organization:** Center for Analysis of Alternative Dispute Resolution Systems  
(CAADRS)  
**Contact Person:** Susan Yates  
**Email Address:** [caads@caads.org](mailto:caads@caads.org)  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.caads.org/>

**Description of Program:**

CAADRS provides technical assistance, monitoring and evaluation services to state and federal courts in Illinois to assist them in making the most efficient and effective use of ADR systems. On a national level, CAADRS provides a Resource Center to gather and disseminate reliable information on court ADR.

## INDIANA

**Court:** Indiana Supreme Court  
**Organization:** Indiana Commission for Continuing Legal Education  
**Contact Person:** Anne Davidson  
**Email Address:** [adavidso@courts.state.in.us](mailto:adavidso@courts.state.in.us)  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/selfservice/mediators.html>

**Description of Program:**

Indiana Commission for Continuing Legal Education maintains a registry of mediators who have successfully completed the Commission's application process prescribed by Alternate Dispute Resolution Rule 2.3.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

Ind.Code §§34-57-3-1 - 34-6-2-79

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Indiana Rules of Court, Rules For Alternative Dispute Resolution;  
[http://www.courts.state.in.us/CourtMed.nsf/adr\\_rule](http://www.courts.state.in.us/CourtMed.nsf/adr_rule)

## IOWA

**Organization:** Supreme Court of Iowa

**Description of Program:**

A dispute resolution program of the establishment and support of locally organized dispute resolution centers is administered by the office of the prosecuting attorneys training coordinator and is coordinated by the executive director. The following types of cases may be referred to dispute resolution: civil claims and disputes, disputes concerning child custody and visitation rights, juvenile offenses, and criminal complaints. Cases may be referred to dispute resolution at any stage of proceedings.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

IA Stat Chap 679 (DR)

## KANSAS

**Court:** Kansas Supreme Court  
**Organization:** Office of Judicial Administration  
**Contact Person:** Art Thompson  
**Email Address:** Thompsona@kscourts.org  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.kscourts.org/adr/>

**Description of Program:**

We provide assistance to courts and state government in establishing, modifying and evaluating dispute resolution programs. We also approve mediators and mediator training.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

K.S.A. 5-501 et seq., K.S.A. 23-601 et seq.

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Supreme Court Rules 901, 902, 903 & 904

**Special Programs:**

Permanency mediation programs, restorative justice programs, probate programs, informal dispute resolution in employment cases, Judicial Settlement Conferences.

## KENTUCKY

**Organization:** Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts  
**Contact Person:** Carol Paisley  
**Email Address:** ADR@mail.aoc.state.ky.us  
**Web Site(s):** [http://www.kycourts.net/AOC/ADR/AOC\\_ADR.htm](http://www.kycourts.net/AOC/ADR/AOC_ADR.htm)

**Description of Program:**

The Mediation and Family Court Services Department promotes and implements alternative dispute resolution services throughout Kentucky's Court of Justice. Many of Kentucky's jurisdictions have local rules authorizing judges to refer all kinds of cases to mediation.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

1984 KRS Chapter 417 Kentucky Uniform Arbitration Act; 1986 KRS 336.1662 Arbitration of Labor Disputes; 1986 KRS 367.841-844 Lemon Law and Arbitration; 1994 KRS Chapter 417 Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet Mediation Program; 1996 KRS 403.036 Domestic Relations and Mediation; 1996 KRS 200.650-676 Mediation for Special Education; 1998 KRS 454.011 Public policy in favor of mediation

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Model Mediation Rules

## LOUISIANA

**Organization:** Supreme Court of Louisiana  
**Contact Person:** Tracy Buccino  
**Title:** Research Attorney  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.lasc.org>

### **Description of Program:**

The Orleans Parish Juvenile Court Permanency Mediation Program employs mediation in Child in Need of Care and Termination of Parental Rights cases. In the First Circuit Court of Appeals Pilot Mediation Program, mediators are provided free of charge. Participation in the program is completely voluntary and takes place only where all parties agree to participate.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

La. Mediation Act (La. R.S. 9:4101, et seq.); La. Arbitration Law (R.S. 9:4201, et seq)  
Mediation in child custody (R.S. 9:332 et seq.) workers' compensation (R.S. 23:1310), juvenile cases (Ch.C art, 435, et seq.)

### **Relevant Rule(s):**

First Circuit Court of Appeals Pilot Mediation Program . For more information on the program, please see [http://www.lasc.org/press\\_room/press\\_releases/2003/2003-10.asp](http://www.lasc.org/press_room/press_releases/2003/2003-10.asp)

### **Special Programs:**

Permanency Mediation Program, a pilot program in Jefferson and Orleans parishes which employs mediation in Child in Need of Care and Termination of Parental Rights cases

## MAINE

**Organization:** Administrative Office of the Courts, Office of Court ADR  
**Contact Person:** Diane Kenty  
**Title:** Director  
**Email Address:** [diane.kenty@maine.gov](mailto:diane.kenty@maine.gov)  
**Web Site(s):** [www.courts.state.me.us](http://www.courts.state.me.us)

**Description of Program:**

Mandatory for custody, small claims; voluntary for land use, environmental, general civil litigation

**Relevant Statute(s):**

ME St. T. 4 §18-B; Maine Rules of Court for referral of cases to the court alternative dispute resolution service rules 1-3.

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Rule 16B of the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure governs ADR in Superior Court.

## MARYLAND

**Organization:** Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office  
**Contact Person:** Rachel Wohl  
**Title:** Executive Director  
**Email Address:** Rachel.Wohl@courts.state.md.us  
**Web Site(s):** [www.courts.state.md.us/macro](http://www.courts.state.md.us/macro)

### **Description of Program:**

In the Maryland Circuit Courts all appropriate contested custody and visitation cases are sent to mediation. Each Circuit Court also has a Family Services Coordinator on staff who helps manage this process. Many jurisdictions also have active ADR programs for other civil cases. The Maryland District Court is committed to offering mediation services at no cost to the parties. Thus, the District Court works in partnership with community mediation centers, referring appropriate cases to mediation prior to scheduled court hearings. In addition, several jurisdictions rely on the services of volunteer mediators who offer “day of trial” mediation in the courthouse, often coordinated by local bar associations.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

Maryland Rules, Title 17, Ch. 100-109

### **Relevant Rule(s):**

The use of mediation in the Maryland circuit courts is governed by Titles 9 and 17 of the Maryland Rules.

## MASSACHUSETTS

**Organization:** Court-Connected Dispute Resolution Services, Administrative Office of the Probate & Family Court  
**Contact Person:** Christine Yurgelun  
**Title:** Coordinator  
**Email Address:** yurgelun\_c@jud.state.ma.us  
**Web Site(s):** www.state.ma.us/courts/  
<http://omega.cc.umb.edu/~resolution/index.html>

### **Description of Program:**

The Chief Justice for Administration and Management appoints up to 20 persons to the Standing Committee on Dispute Resolution in consultation with the Chief Justices of the Trial Court departments. The committee advises the Chief Justice on standards, implementation, and oversight of the court connected programs. The Chief Justice for each trial court department approves programs to receive court referrals and each trial court department may develop experimental non-binding pilot programs for mandatory referral.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

MA Stat. Ann. Part III, Title I. Ch. 211B §19, MA Supreme Judicial Ct Rule 1:18 (FAQs), MA Supreme Judicial Ct Rule 1:18 Uniform Rules on Dispute Resolution

---

**Court:** Massachusetts  
**Organization:** Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution  
**Contact Person:** Susan M. Jeghelian  
**Title:** Executive Director  
**Email Address:** susan.jeghelian@umb.edu  
**Web Site(s):** <http://omega.cc.umb.edu/~resolution/>

### **Description of Program:**

The Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution (MODR) is a state agency dedicated to promoting and facilitating alternative dispute resolution (ADR) within public entities.

## MICHIGAN

**Court:** Supreme Court of Michigan  
**Organization:** Office of Dispute Resolution  
**Contact Person:** Doug Van Epps  
**Title:** Director  
**Email Address:** vanepbsd@courts.mi.gov  
**Web Site(s):** <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/dispute/odr.htm>

**Description of Program:**

Oversees grant funding to a network of community mediation centers, coordinates specialized training, conducts pilot projects in new applications of mediation, and conducts evaluation. Assists trial court in implementing ADR programs

**Relevant Statute(s):**

Michigan compiled laws Ch. 691551 et seq., Michigan Rules of Civil Procedure, Ch. 2.400 Pretrial Procedure, Alternative Dispute Resolution.

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Michigan Court Rules 2.410, 2.411, 3.216

## MINNESOTA

**Court:** Minnesota  
**Organization:** Supreme Court ADR Review Board  
**Contact Person:** Michelle Sorvari  
**Title:** ADR Assistant  
**Email Address:** adr@courts.state.mn.us  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.courts.state.mn.us/?page=303>

**Description of Program:**

The ADR Review Board is appointed by the MN Supreme Court to promote the ethical use of ADR in the court system. The Board reviews complaints and may issue sanctions against neutrals in accordance with Rule 114 Code of Ethics. In addition the Board considers training waivers requests from neutrals. Individuals who have not taken a certified ADR course may ask the Board for a training waiver and be placed on the ADR Rule 114 roster.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

MN ST CH. 494 (Community Dispute Resolution Program); 484§76, Rules of Practice for District Courts Rule 114.

**Relevant Rule(s):**

LRCP 114 (ADR Proc)

## MISSISSIPPI

**Organization:** Administrative Office of the Courts

**Description of Program:**

The Mississippi Bar ADR Section sponsored a Family Law Mediation Pilot Program, a modified pro-bono mediation services program that lasted through July 31, 2005

**Relevant Statute(s):**

MS Stat Ann Title 11, CH 15

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Court Annexed Mediation Rules For Civil Litigation

## MISSOURI

**Court:** Missouri  
**Organization:** Office of the State Courts Administrator  
**Contact Person:** Norma Rahm  
**Title:** Family Preservation Project Specialist  
**Email Address:** nrahm@osca.state.mo.us  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.courts.mo.gov/hosted/circuit13/mediation%20brochure.htm>

### **Description of Program:**

Any judge by order or any judicial circuit by local court rule may establish an ADR program as provided in Rule 17. This rule applies to almost all civil cases (except those subject to SC Rules 88.02 to 88.08 which discuss mediation of child custody and visitation disputes). Programs include, but are not limited to: arbitration, early neutral evaluation, mediation, mini-trial, and summary jury trial. All processes are non-binding (and considered settlement negotiations) unless parties enter into a written agreement. A civil action is ordered to dispute resolution upon stipulation of the parties, by the court, or may be ordered upon motion of any party. A party may opt out of the process. Court selects neutral if parties cannot.

Both local court rule and the rules of the Missouri Supreme Court require the parties in any case involving contested issues of custody and/or visitation to attend 2 hours of mediation, unless waived by the court. After the 2 hours, either party may terminate the mediation. The parties may select a mediator or if they are unable the court may select a mediator.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

Supreme Ct Rules 17 and 88, Voluntary Early Dispute Resolution, Rules of the 22nd Judicial Circuit Ct Rule 38.38.5

## MONTANA

**Organization:** Montana Supreme Court

**Description of Program:**

Mandatory appellate alternative dispute resolution procedures (provided in Rule 54) apply to cases involving workers' compensation, domestic relations, and money judgments. Mediation is the procedure used which includes a neutral third party, confidentiality, position statements and no settlement requirement.

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Rule 54 of the Montana Rules of Appellate Procedure

## **NEBRASKA**

**Court:** Nebraska Supreme Court, State Court Administrator's Office  
**Organization:** Office of Dispute Resolution  
**Contact Person:** Debora Brownyard  
**Title:** Director  
**Email Address:** dbrownyard@nsc.state.ne.us  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.supremecourt.ne.gov/mediation/>

**Description of Program:**

The NE ODR was established by statute in 1991 to administer the Dispute Resolution Act, NRS § 25-2901, et seq., and to serve as staff to the ODR Advisory Council. The office annually evaluates and provides grants to ODR-approved non profit mediation centers that serve citizens throughout Nebraska's 93 counties. The office also coordinates with other ADR resources in the state, including the Douglas County (Omaha) District Court Conciliation and Mediation Office which provides parenting plan mediation through staff and mediator roster.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

Nebraska Dispute Resolution Act, §25-2901, et seq.; Nebraska Parenting Act, §43-2901, et seq.; Nebraska Uniform Mediation Act, §25-2930, et seq.

**Special Programs:**

Special Education, Family Group Conferencing, Restorative Justice

## NEVADA

**Organization:** Nevada Supreme Court  
**Contact Person:** Tom Harris  
**Title:** Supervisory Staff Attorney  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.nvsupremecourt.us/ccp/settlement/>

**Description of Program:**

The Supreme Court's Settlement Conference Program is an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) program that was started in 1997. Since its inception, 55% of the cases assigned to the program have settled. The program is administered under the provisions of Nevada Rule of Appellate Procedure 16.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

NV Rev Stat. Ann. Title 3 Ch. 38 Mediation and Arbitration, Uniform Arbitration Act; Supreme Ct Rules Arbitration Rules, NV St Title 20 Ch. 244§ 1607 Neighborhood Justice Center.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Court:** New Hampshire Superior Court  
**Contact Person:** Peter Wolfe  
**Title:** Court ADR Coordinator  
**Email Address:** PWolfe@Courts.State.NH.US  
**Web Site(s):** www.courts.state.nh.us  
<http://www.courts.state.nh.us/adrp/index.htm>

### **Description of Program:**

The New Hampshire Court system offers several Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Programs which experience has shown can save time and money both for the parties involved and the Courts. Parties to civil lawsuits in all counties are required to participate in the ADR program, before their cases are scheduled for trial.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

Superior Ct Rules Vol.1 Rule 170, RSA 328.C, RSA 458115a

### **Relevant Rule(s):**

Superior Court Administrative Rule 23 Neutral Evaluation of Marital Cases; Probate Court Administrative Rule 11 Probate Mediator

### **Special Programs:**

Parent/child mediation

## NEW JERSEY

**Court:** New Jersey  
**Organization:** Administrative Office of the Courts  
**Contact Person:** Kathleen Gaskill  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/services/cdr.htm>

### **Description of Program:**

The Supreme Court has approved a variety of dispute resolution programs for use in the Municipal, Family, and Civil courts, including the Special Civil part. Some programs are appropriate for use also in the General Equity Division and Probation. Some programs are mandated by statute, others are required by the Supreme Court for all vicinages (counties), and still others are pilots in selected vicinages or are optional for vicinage implementation. Depending on the vicinage and the program, complementary dispute resolution services generally are provided by trained citizen volunteers, attorneys, judicial personnel, and community agencies.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

Rules of Ct, Part I Rules of General Application, Ch. 4, Rule 1:40

## NEW MEXICO

**Court:** New Mexico Court of Appeals  
**Organization:** Appellate Mediation Office  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.nmcourts.com/FTP/stuffer.pdf>

**Description of Program:**

Any civil matter pending before the Court is eligible except appeals in which one of the parties is incarcerated, one in which a party does not have legal representation, revocation of a driver's license, a petition for extraordinary relief, or an appeal arising out of the Children's Code. The Mediation Office selects cases at random from a pool or counsel for either party may request a mediation conference.

---

**Court:** Bernalillo County Court  
**Organization:** 2nd Judicial District  
**Contact Person:** David Levin  
**Title:** Director, Court Alternatives

## NEW YORK

**Court:** New York Unified Court System  
**Organization:** *Office of ADR and Court Improvement*  
**Contact Person:** Daniel Weitz  
**Title:** Coordinator  
**Email Address:** [dweitz@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:dweitz@courts.state.ny.us)  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.courts.state.ny.us/ip/adr/index.shtml>

### **Description of Program:**

The Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution Programs is a unit of the Division of Court Operations within the Unified Court System's Office of Court Administration. The Office works with Judges, court administrators and members of the bar to design dispute resolution programs that are responsive to the needs of the communities and courts in which they operate.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

N.Y.Ct.Rules, § 28, §§ 116.1-116.8, McKinney's Judiciary Law § 849 (community dispute resolution centers)

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

**Court:** North Carolina  
**Organization:** North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission  
**Contact Person:** Leslie Ratliff  
**Title:** Executive Secretary  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.nccourts.org/Courts/CRS/Councils/DRC/Default.asp>  
<http://www1.aoc.state.nc.us/mediatorpublic/login.do>

### **Description of Program:**

The Commission supports three statewide mediation programs - the Mediated Settlement Conference (MSC) Program, the Family Financial Settlement (FFS) Program, and the new Clerk Mediation (CMP) Program. The MSC Program is designed to promote early settlement of cases filed in superior court, including automobile accident and other negligence cases and business and contract disputes. The FFS Program operates in district court and provides opportunities for early settlement of disputes involving issues of property division, alimony, and child support. The new Clerk Mediation Program allows Clerks to refer an array of matters to mediation, including estate and guardianship disputes. The Commission also supports the Pre-litigation Farm Nuisance Mediation Program, designed to promote early settlement of livestock and agricultural nuisance disputes, and the new Electric Supplier Territorial Disputes Mediation Program for mediation of disputes between electric cooperatives and municipalities that generate electricity.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

NC ST § 7A-38.5 (community mediation center)

## NORTH DAKOTA

**Court:** North Dakota  
**Organization:** Supreme Court of North Dakota  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.court.state.nd.us/Court/ADR/>

**Description of Program:**

The State Court Administrator maintains a roster of neutrals who may be used by parties to disputes. Those on the roster meet certain minimum requirements for listing. Parties may use neutrals not on the roster. Within 60 days of filing of a lawsuit, parties must discuss ADR and file a statement as to whether it will be used.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

Rule 8.9 Roster of ADR Neutrals; Rule 8.8

## OHIO

**Court:** Ohio Supreme Court  
**Organization:** Dispute Resolution Programs Section, Judicial and Court Services  
Division  
**Contact Person:** Jacqueline C. Hagerott  
**Title:** Manager  
**Email Address:** mediate@sconet.state.oh.us  
**Web Site(s):** www.sconet.state.oh.us/dispute\_resolution

**Description of Program:**

The purpose of the Dispute Resolution Section is to promote statewide rules and uniform standards concerning dispute resolution programs and to develop and deliver dispute resolution services to Ohio courts including training programs for judges and court personnel. The Section works with 165 programs in 88 counties including civil, victim offender, parenting issues, child protection, truancy, adult guardianship, housing and pre-filing criminal cases.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43; Ohio Revised Code Chapter 2710; Uniform Mediation Act (Effective 10/29/05); Ohio Revised Code Section 2919.25; Ohio Revised Code Section 3109.052

---

**Organization:** Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management  
**Contact Person:** Maria L. Mone  
**Title:** Executive Director  
**Web Site(s):** <http://disputeresolution.ohio.gov/commissn.htm>

**Description of Program:**

The Commission acts as teacher, catalyst, consultant, collaborator, trainer, and evaluator. Its mission is to disseminate information about positive ways to manage conflict, resolve disputes, and build foundations upon which these approaches can become part of our social institutions and our individual lives. The Commission focuses its efforts in four primary areas across Ohio's schools, courts, communities, and government.

## OKLAHOMA

**Court:** Oklahoma  
**Organization:** Administrative Office of the Courts  
**Contact Person:** Sue Darst Tate  
**Title:** Director  
**Email Address:** sue.tate@OSCN.net  
**Web Site(s):** www.oscn.net

**Description of Program:**

Provides convenient access to conflict resolution proceedings that are fair, effective, inexpensive and expeditious for every citizen of the state.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

OK Statute Title 12, Ch. 37 §§ 1801-1813, Ch. 38 §§ 1821-1825

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Rule and Procedures appended to the Oklahoma Dispute Resolution Act, Title 12, Chapter 37 sections 1801-1813 et seq.

**Special Programs:**

Insurance complaints, state employment, natural gas producer/pipeline owner, Victim-Offender (adults post-conviction & pre-sentence), Victim restitution/juvenile offender, Adult Guardianship, school-based peer mediation with OBA, Child permanency, Family & Divorce, ADA and Section 504 alleged discrimination.

## OREGON

**Court:** Oregon  
**Organization:** Oregon Office of Court Administration  
**Contact Person:** Erin Ruff  
**Title:** ADR Analyst

**Description of Program:**

In Oregon, courts and their state and local partners support and provide education so that people learn about conflict resolution from their earliest years through adulthood. To prevent and resolve disputes, we work together to provide everyone with easy access to a network of excellent, culturally responsive services at diverse sites across the state and in every community.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

OR Rev. Stat. 36.100-36.200; 36.400-36.425

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Court:** Pennsylvania  
**Organization:** Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania  
**Contact Person:** John Gordon  
**Title:** Director  
**Web Site(s):** [www.courts.state.pa.us](http://www.courts.state.pa.us)

**Description of Program:**

Responsible for screening of all appellate and original jurisdiction cases on filing for referral to court mediators parallel to litigation track

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Commonwealth court internal operating procedure No. 501, 210 Pa Code

---

**Court:** Pike County Court  
**Contact Person:** Colleen McCarthy  
**Title:** Administrator  
**Email Address:** [cmccarthy@pikepa.org](mailto:cmccarthy@pikepa.org)

## PUERTO RICO

**Court:** Puerto Rico

**Web Site(s):** <http://www.tribunalespr.org/NegMed/index.htm>

**Relevant Statute(s):**

Puerto Rico Title 4, Ch. 44, §532

## RHODE ISLAND

**Court:** Rhode Island Supreme Court  
**Organization:** *Appellate Mediation Program*  
**Contact Person:** Erika Leigh Kruse  
**Title:** General Counsel & Director of Alternative Dispute Resolution  
**Email Address:** amp@courts.state.ri.us  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.courts.ri.gov/supreme/mediation.htm>

**Description of Program:**

Appellate Mediations conducted by retired justices for certain eligible and appropriate civil appeals. Family Court Family Services has a mediation program for conflicts regarding child custody or visitation.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

§ 9-19-44. Mediator confidentiality in mediation proceedings.

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Rhode Island Supreme Court Provisional Rule A as amended.  
<http://www.courts.state.ri.us/supreme/pdf-files/provisional-ruleA-mediation7-26-04.pdf>

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Organization:** South Carolina Supreme Court Commission on ADR  
**Contact Person:** Joan Brown  
**Title:** Public Services Counsel  
**Email Address:** jbrown@scbar.org  
**Web Site(s):** [www.scbar.org/adr](http://www.scbar.org/adr)

**Description of Program:**

The South Carolina Bar houses the Supreme Court's Commission on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and related Board of Arbitrator and Mediator Certification, which aid the Court with all aspects of South Carolina court-annexed ADR, including: Issuing and renewing circuit and family court mediator and arbitrator certificates; Maintaining and distributing the official roster of active certified mediators and arbitrators; and Promoting educational opportunities for users of court ADR programs, including monitoring and approving mediator and arbitrator training.

**Relevant Rule(s):**

S.C. Court-Annexed ADR Rules

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

**Court:** South Dakota  
**Organization:** Unified Judicial System  
**Contact Person:** D.J. Hanson  
**Title:** State Court Administrator

## TENNESSEE

**Court:** Tennessee  
**Organization:** Administrative Office of the Courts  
**Contact Person:** Andrea Ayers  
**Title:** Programs Manager  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.tsc.state.tn.us/geninfo/programs/ADR/adrrdir.asp>

**Description of Program:**

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission maintains a roster of Rule 31 approved mediators and neutrals.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, Alternative Dispute Resolution Rule 31

## TEXAS

**Organization:** Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution  
**Contact Person:** Jan Summer  
**Title:** Executive Director  
**Email Address:** jsummer@mail.law.utexas.edu  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.utexas.edu/law/academics/centers/cppdr/index.html>

### **Description of Program:**

The Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution was created in 1993 to specifically promote the appropriate use of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) in Texas government.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

The Texas Alternative Dispute Resolution Act(Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code Ann., Chapter 154) authorizes the referral of pending disputes by Texas courts to ADR procedures and establishes ADR confidentiality standards.

## UTAH

**Court:** Utah Supreme Court  
**Organization:** ADR Program, Administrative Offices of the Court  
**Web Site:** [www.utcourts.gov/mediation](http://www.utcourts.gov/mediation)

**Description of Program:** State court mediation program that oversees mediation programs in communities throughout the state.

**Relevant Statute(s):**  
Utah State Judicial Administration Rule 4-510

## VERMONT

**Organization:** Vermont Family Court Program  
**Email Address:** [vfcmp@mail.state.vt.us](mailto:vfcmp@mail.state.vt.us)  
**Web Site(s):** [www.vermontjudiciary.org](http://www.vermontjudiciary.org)

**Description of Program:** Vermont Family Court Mediation Program Information:  
Mediation for Vermont Families with Children for issues of separation, divorce, parentage, civil union, dissolution, post-divorce & blended families. Mediators are contracted with the Court Administrator of the Vermont Supreme Court.

## VIRGINIA

**Court:** Supreme Court of Virginia  
**Organization:** Dispute Resolution Services  
**Contact Person:** Geetha Ravindra  
**Title:** Director  
**Email Address:** gravindra@courts.state.va.us  
**Web Site(s):** www.courts.state.va.us

**Description of Program:**

Responsible for the development and integration of ADR programs and services for all the state courts.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

Va. Code Sections 8.01-576.4-12; 8.01-581.21 – 26

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Guidelines for the Certification of Court-Referred Mediators; Standards of Ethics for Court Certified Mediators; Complaint Procedures; Guidelines for the Certification of Mediation Training Programs.

**Special Programs:**

Restorative Justice programs, child dependency mediation programs, truancy mediation programs, Judicial Settlement Conference

## WASHINGTON

**Organization:** Supreme Court of Washington  
**Contact Person:** Yvonne Pettus  
**Title:** Manager, Planning and Development  
**Web Site(s):** <http://www.courts.wa.gov/>  
[http://www.courts.wa.gov/court\\_dir/?fa=court\\_dir.dispute](http://www.courts.wa.gov/court_dir/?fa=court_dir.dispute)

**Description of Program:**

Community Dispute Resolution Centers were authorized by the state legislature in the 1984 Court Improvement Act. Each DRC is a private, nonprofit organization or a service of local government. Any civil, nonviolent dispute is a candidate for mediation. Some DRCs also accept criminal cases. Most DRCs offer mediation as their primary conflict resolution service.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

Washington Statute 7.75.010 (Dispute Resolution Centers) Superior Court Mandatory Arbitration (7.06) Rules 1.1- 8.5 ; Mediation of Health Care Claims (7.70.100); Each county has its own rules.

**Relevant Rule(s):**

Superior Court Civil Rule 53.4 (mandatory mediation of healthcare claims); Superior Court Mandatory Arbitration Rules

## WEST VIRGINIA

**Court:** West Virginia  
**Contact Person:** Joan Mullins  
**Title:** Family Court Services

### **Description of Program:**

In the family court system parents who are not able to agree on shared parenting responsibilities must attempt to mediate their dispute. Some parents are not required to attempt mediation. For example, mediation is not required in cases where there is a history of domestic violence, substance abuse, mental illness, or a significant power imbalance. Every family court office provides premediation screening to determine if these factors might prevent parents from meaningfully participating in mediation. If mediation is appropriate, the family court will designate a person or an agency to conduct the mediation. Parents must pay for mediation at an hourly rate based on their combined annual incomes. Many mediators volunteer their time to mediate cases for indigent parents.

### **Relevant Statute(s):**

WV Rules of Trial Ct. Rule 25.01-25.16

### **Special Programs:**

Recognizing that the nature of magistrate court cases is particularly suited to mediation, the Monongalia County Magistrate Court assigns selected cases to mediation as an alternative to litigation. The Magistrate Court Mediation Program began as a pilot project in Monongalia County in 2002 through a coordination of the efforts of the Supreme Court of Appeals, the Monongalia County Circuit Court, the Monongalia County Magistrate Court, and the West Virginia State Bar. Throughout the school year, law students who have completed the State Bar's Basic Mediator Training serve as mediators, with one attorney "on call" if needed. During the summer, attorney mediators, mediators from West Virginia University's Center for Dispute Resolution, and mediators from Ohio Valley College work with the program.

## WISCONSIN

**Court:** Wisconsin  
**Contact Person:** Randy Sproule  
**Title:** Medical Mediation Panels Coordinator

**Description of Program:**

See full text of WI Stat. Ann. Ch. 802.12

**Relevant Statute(s):**

WI Stat, Ann CH. 788, Ch. 802.12

## WYOMING

**Court:** Wyoming  
**Web Site(s):** <http://courts.state.wy.us/>

**Description of Program:**

The court may assign or a party may request a case to be assigned to nonbinding alternative dispute resolution methods, including settlement conference and mediation. The clerk of the Supreme Court maintains a registry of the names of qualified persons who are available to accept assignments of cases. The rule doesn't preclude parties from agreeing to submit their dispute to other forms of ADR, including arbitration and summary jury trial.

**Relevant Statute(s):**

WY Rules of Civil Procedure 40