

## Becoming an Accredited Family Mediator



The table below sets out the process that is followed to become a family mediator and estimates the direct cost of each stage of this (stage 5 also sets out the requirements to maintain accreditation once this has been achieved). Over a three-year period, these costs might add up to between £7000 - £8000. In addition, you may have travel costs and, whilst you may also charge for your mediation services, if you are working elsewhere, you may wish to factor in that time spent training as a mediator will not be spent on other work. Costs may be higher – for example, if your Professional Practice Consultant charges higher than average rates, or you need to resubmit your portfolio, but they may also be lower – for example, if you complete the process earlier, or find lower cost CPD.

Stage	Action	Time	Approximate Cost (2019)	Commentary & more Information
1 – Training	Attend and pass an FMC Approved Family Mediation Foundation Training Course	8 days and remote study	£2,000 - £3,000	<p>To become an accredited family mediator, you first need to attend an FMC approved foundation training course.</p> <p>A list of approved foundation training course providers can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>The foundation course requires 8 days of attendance, which might take place a few days at a time, with remote study in between. This is an assessed course and though there is a high pass rate with course providers offering support and guidance for anyone who is struggling, passing the course is not guaranteed.</p>
2 - Registration	Engage a PPC	Administrative time	*	<p>Once you have completed your training, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">find a PPC</a>;</li> <li>• join an <a href="#">FMC Member organisation</a>; and</li> <li>• <a href="#">register with the FMC</a> as working towards accreditation.</li> </ul>
	Become a member of an FMC Membership Organisation		MO fee: £100 – £250 p.a.	
	Register with FMC		FMC fee: £60 p.a.	
3 – Experience and developing skills	CPD appropriate for your development – expected minimum 10 hours per year (including courses, reading, seminars etc) and including soft skills and legal updates Including Child Inclusive Mediation Awareness & Understanding Day	10 hours p.a.	£400 p.a.	<p>Start to mediate and work on your portfolio for submission.</p> <p>Mediators must undertake specified work and mediate in at least 3 cases. Finding the mediation work can be particularly difficult for some people.</p>
	PPC Support – 4 hours per year, plus 10 additional hours	4 hours p.a.	£420 p.a.	

	PPC Support - 10 additional hours	10 hours	£1200 over relevant time frame	<p>Portfolios should be submitted within 3 years of completion of foundation training, although extensions are available in some circumstances.</p> <p>It is advisable to start building your portfolio as soon as you are registered and have your port training review, so that compiling the portfolio is spread over a period of time and not such a big task at the end.</p>
	Post training review with PPC	*	*	
	Observes <b>or</b> co-mediate in a mediation session conducted by an FMCA mediator & produce an evaluative account of the session	1 day		
	Pre-case discussion with own PPC before starting to mediate or to assess clients' suitability for mediation	*	*	
	Have Mediation Session observed by own PPC. Write account that sets the context for the session, reflects on approach & responds constructively to PPC's points	1 day	£300 – £500 (Estimated cost – will vary depending on location of PPC)	
	Mediate in 1 child, 1 finance & 1 all-issues cases (or 2 child and 2 finance cases) & write up case commentaries	½ day per mediation session plus home study time to write up case commentaries	Income from mediation	
	Complete Case Study Questions	Home study time	N/A	
	Complete reflective account	Home study time	N/A	
	Complete personal development plan and review with PPC	Home study time	*	
	Compile portfolio, anonymise documents, match competencies in portfolio to template	Home study time	N/A	
4 – Proving competency	Submit portfolio to FMC or to Law Society	Home study time to prepare portfolio	£275 FMC £300 The Law Society (includes TLS	

			Membership Fees for 3 years)	
5 – Maintaining Accreditation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 15 hours a year mediation (not including intake meetings)</li> <li>CPD appropriate for your development – expected minimum 10 hours per year (including courses, reading, seminars etc) and including soft skills and legal updates</li> <li>2 hours individual PPC time, and a further 2 hours individual or group PPC time, per year</li> </ul>	<p>15 hours p.a.</p> <p>10 hours p.a.</p> <p>4 hours p.a.</p>	<p><b>£400 p.a.</b></p> <p><b>£420 p.a.</b></p>	<p>Mediators need to be practising to maintain their accredited status.</p> <p>The FMC does not require mediators to carry out a fixed number of CPD hours, though it does guide mediators that less than 10 hours per year is unlikely to be sufficient. Mediators are expected to determine their own particular development needs and identify how to meet them, with the support of their PPC. FMC Membership Organisations often offer member discounts on attended courses and online seminars/reading can provide some CPD at low cost.</p> <p>All registered mediators need to have a PPC. The average cost of a PPC is c. £105 per hour.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership of one of the FMC's five Member Organisation</li> <li>Annual Registration with the FMC</li> <li>Renewal of Accreditation every three years confirming adherence to the above requirements</li> </ul>	Administrative Time	<p><b>£150 p.a</b></p> <p><b>£120 p.a.</b></p>	<p>MOs £100 – £250 per annum</p> <p>There is currently no additional cost to renew accreditation.</p>

\* Indicates costs are included elsewhere in the table