

The requirements to become a Rule 31 listed general civil mediator are found in Rule 31, §17(a) as follows:

Section 17. Rule 31 Mediators

No person shall act as a Rule 31 Mediator without first being listed by the ADRC. To be listed, Rule 31 Mediators must pay application fees set by the ADRC and must comply with the qualification and training requirements set forth in this section. All training must have been approved by the ADRC as set for in section (f) below and must have been completed within the fifteen years immediately preceding the application seeking Rule 31 Mediator listing. [Amended April 24, 2009]

(a) Rule 31 Mediators in General Civil Cases.

(1) To be listed by the ADRC as a Rule 31 Mediator in general civil cases, one must:

(A) be of good moral character as evidenced by two references accompanying application for listing and certify in writing an intention to comply with the conditions and obligations imposed by Rule 31, including those requirements related to pro bono obligations;

(B) have a graduate degree plus four years of full time practical work experience, or a baccalaureate degree plus six years of full time practical work experience. Full time practical work experience shall be defined as 35 hours or more of work per week; and

(C) complete 40 hours of general mediation training which includes the curriculum components specified by the ADRC for Rule 31 Mediators in general civil cases.

(2) If the applicant's profession requires licensing, the applicant shall also:

(A) be in good standing with the Board or Agency charged with issuing licenses to practice in the applicant's profession. The failure to take or pass an examination required by the Board or Agency will not affect the applicant's standing to apply for listing as a Rule 31 Mediator. A disbarred lawyer or any other professional with a suspended or revoked license may reapply when the applicant has been readmitted to practice. Misconduct shall not include failure to pay board or agency dues when there is no intent by the applicant to practice in the licensed occupation or profession in any jurisdiction other than Tennessee.

(B) not be the subject of three or more open complaints made to the Board or Agency charged with hearing complaints about the applicant's professional conduct. If there are three or more open complaints with the relevant Board or Agency, the application will be deferred by the ADRC until the applicant has advised the ADRC that three or more open complaints no longer exist.

To read about training waiver requirements, go to Rule 31, §17(d) at: <http://www.tncourts.gov/rules/supreme-court/31>.