

Understanding Florida's New Parenting Coordination Training Requirements: How to Make Sure That I Comply



Shana Duehring, Esq.

Qualified Parenting Coordinator

Guardian ad Litem

Chair, PC Subcommittee FL Bar Family Law Section

Our Family Parenting Coordinator, LLC

Contact: Shana.FYI

Learning Objectives



- New initial PC qualification application process
- CPCE cycle dates & deadlines
- Breakdown of types of credits and number required for each type
- Determining if a training qualifies for CPCE
- Reporting credit hours simultaneously to multidisciplinary boards
- Separate reporting for each circuit where PC is qualified
- Completing and submitting the Applications and Reporting Form
- Where to go if you have questions
- Q/A
- Education opportunities that satisfy each type of CPCE

Check out the DRC official website for more information about PCs in Florida

- DRC Website for Parenting Coordinators:
<https://www.flcourts.gov/Resources-Services/Alternative-Dispute-Resolution/Parenting-Coordination>

Florida has four bodies of law that apply directly to PCs

FL STATUTE 61.125

Origin
Authority

FAMILY LAW FORMS 12.984

Communication
Access to Judge
Child Safety

FAMILY LAW RULE OF PROCEDURE 12.742

Testimony
Confidentiality

DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER RULE 15

Training and CPCE
Ethics

Rule 15 was recently revamped by the FL Supreme Court and Dispute Resolution Center to require additional and ongoing education for parenting coordinators

Supreme Court of Florida

No. SC20-942

IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA RULES FOR QUALIFIED AND COURT-APPOINTED PARENTING COORDINATORS.

December 2, 2021

PER CURIAM.

The Supreme Court Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules and Policy (Committee) proposes amendments to the Florida Rules for Qualified and Court-Appointed Parenting Coordinators.¹ We have jurisdiction² and adopt the proposed amendments with minor, technical changes.³

1. The Committee proposes the amendments pursuant to *In re Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules and Policy*, Fla. Admin. Order No. AOSC18-29 (July 2, 2018), which charges the Committee with monitoring court rules governing alternative dispute resolution procedures and recommending necessary changes to the Court.

2. See art. V, § 2(a), Fla. Const.

3. References to the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration are amended to reflect the new title of the body of rules, the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration. See *In re*

Florida Rules for Qualified & Court-Appointed Parenting Coordinators

Effective December 2021



Florida Dispute Resolution Center
Office of the State Courts Administrator
Supreme Court Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
drcmail@flcourts.org www.flcourts.org

Operating Procedures Governing Continuing Parenting Coordination Education

DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER RULE 15

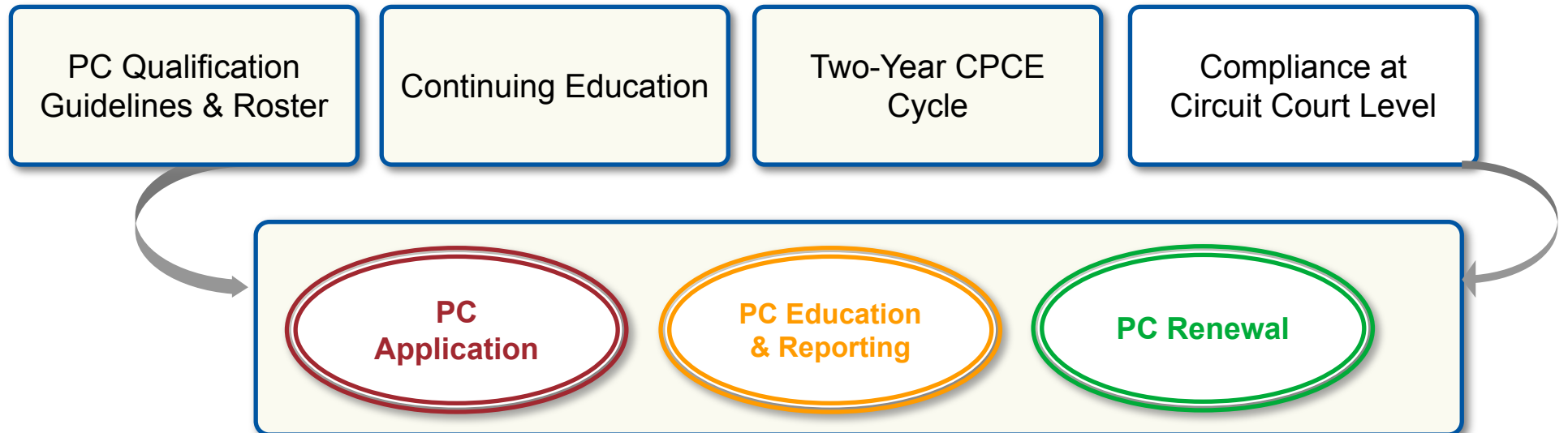
Training and CPCE
Ethics

The past vs current state of parenting coordination qualification and training under Rule 15

PAST STATE

- Parenting Coordinators qualified by initial training, license
- Lifetime qualification presumed
- No continuing education
- Reporting not required

CURRENT STATE



Three steps to take to comply with the new training rule

1. One-time Only: Send Standard Application to each circuit court:
<https://www.flcourts.gov/content/download/831711/file/parenting-coordination-application-form-adopted-march-2022.pdf>
2. Complete 16 Hours Continuing Parenting Coordination Education:
<https://www.flcourts.gov/content/download/831783/file/CPCE-Reporting-Form-Adopted-March-2022.pdf>
3. Report CPCEs & submit Renewal Form to each circuit court by December 31 in odd years:
<https://www.flcourts.gov/content/download/831784/file/parenting-coordination-renewal-form-adopted-march-2022.pdf>

Parenting coordinators must submit a new application for each circuit

1. PC Standard Application created by ADR Committee must be used by all judicial circuits
2. Each judicial circuit:
 - a. Must review the applications and determine which individuals meet the qualifications under section FL Statute 61.125 to be included on the roster of qualified PCs for that circuit
 - b. Must establish and maintain a roster of parenting coordinators from which the trial court may appoint a qualified parenting coordinator
 - c. May conduct a criminal background investigation and make inquiries necessary to verify an applicant's eligibility to be included on the roster of qualified PCs for that circuit

*No other additional requirements shall be imposed on parenting coordinators to be included on a circuit's roster other than those listed in section 61.125, Florida Statutes, and these rules.

[Link to NEW Parenting Coordination Initial Application](#)

The new Rule 15 tightened up the PC Disqualification procedures

- ❖ Each judicial circuit shall establish a process to periodically review whether a parenting coordinator continues to be qualified
- ❖ PCs who are disqualified shall immediately be removed from the circuit's list of qualified parenting coordinators
- ❖ Any appeal pertaining to a parenting coordinator's inclusion on or removal from the roster shall be heard and decided by the chief judge or designee(s) in that judicial circuit, whose decision shall be final

PCs must submit a renewal application to each circuit every 2 years by December 31 in odd years

- ❖ PC Standard Renewal Application created by ADR Committee must be used by all judicial circuits
- ❖ Verification of **16 hours of continuing parenting coordination education “CPCE”** taken every 2 years
- ❖ All qualified PCs shall renew their qualifications and provide verification of continuing parenting coordination education **on or before December 31 of every odd-numbered year** regardless of the length of initial or renewal qualification
- ❖ If all other qualifications are satisfied but a qualified PC is deficient in CPCE hours, they will be notified in writing and qualification shall be continued for 90 days from the notice of noncompliance. They shall complete all remaining CPCE within those 90 days

[Link to Parenting Coordination Renewal Form](#)

Parenting Coordinators must complete a minimum of 16 hours CPCE every 2 years

ETHICS (4hrs)

- 2 hrs specific to PC
- 2 hrs specific to PC or mediation

IPV: Interpersonal Violence (4 hrs)

- 2 hrs specific to PC focus on DV and child abuse, child neglect or abandonment
- 2 hrs

MENTAL HEALTH & FAMILY DYNAMICS

- 2 hrs

FL FAMILY LAW & RULES OF PROCEDURE

- 2 hrs

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

- 1 hr

OTHER

- 3 hours

[LINK to Parenting Coordination Education \(CPCE\) Reporting Form](#)

What qualifies as Continuing PC Education?

- ★ All CPCE credits are based on a 50-minute hour
- ★ CE completed for another profession's CE requirement may be used as CPCE
- ★ There is no accreditation or qualification process **yet** for CPCE providers, however generally:
Qualifying CPCE:
 - Must have significant, current intellectual or practical content and must constitute an organized program of learning directly related to the practice of parenting coordination.
 - Must be conducted by an individual or group qualified by practical or academic experience.
 - Free or fee-based trainings

[LINK to Parenting Coordination Education \(CPCE\) Reporting Form](#)

Parenting Coordinators must report the CPCEs by December 31, 2023 and every two years thereafter

Continuing Parenting Coordination Education (CPCE) Reporting Form

Due December 31 of every odd calendar year

Print Full Legal Name: _____

Requirement: All qualified parenting coordinators must complete a minimum of 16 hours of CPCE including:

- four hours of ethics including a minimum of two hours of ethics specific to parenting coordination (*two hours may include either mediator or parenting coordination ethics*); and
- four hours of interpersonal violence (IPV) including a minimum of two hours specific to parenting coordination with a focus on domestic violence and child abuse, child neglect or abandonment; and
- two hours of mental health and family dynamics education; and
- two hours of Florida family law and rules of procedure education; and one hour of cultural diversity education.

Date	Title and Sponsor	Total Hours (16)	Ethics (4)	IPV (4)	MH (2)	Family (2)	CD (1)
9/1/2022	Following the PC Rules on When/How to Notify the Court as to suspected child abuse	2		2		2	

Signature _____

Date _____



Hours applicable to more than one subject matter are eligible to be counted in more than one category of CPCE

CPCE hours can be earned in numerous ways

- ❖ List of free CPCE'S on DRC Website for Parenting Coordinators:
<https://www.flcourts.gov/Resources-Services/Alternative-Dispute-Resolution/Parenting-Coordination>

- ❖ Acceptable CPCE formats:
 - Live or recorded
 - Video or audio only
 - Web-based presentations
 - Lecturer, presenter, or panel member in a CPCE program
 - Attendance at Florida Supreme Court ADR committee or board meetings for the time spent on parenting coordination topics
 - Authoring or editing written materials submitted for publication that have significant intellectual or practical content directly related to the practice of parenting coordination
 - Successfully completion a self-directed program that is qualified for CE credit by a governmental licensing board

PC Continuing Ed 2023 Webinar + On-Demand Series

Continuing Parenting Coordinator Education (CPCE)

Free Educational Offerings compiled by the Dispute Resolution Center

CPCE Requirement: Complete 16 hours of CPCE every two years in a minimum of five areas:

four hours IPV (two hours must be related to PC), four hours of ethics (two hours mediator ethics and two PC ethics hours or four PC ethics hours), one hour cultural diversity, two hours mental health / family dynamics, two hours Family Law & Procedures, and three other hours relating to parenting coordination.

Cultural Diversity.....	1
Family Law & Procedures.....	1
Interpersonal Violence (IPV)	2
Mediator Ethics	4
Mental Health / Family Dynamics	7
Parenting Coordinator Ethics	7
Related Topics.....	7

Get all 16 hours working at your own pace PLUS audit support

- Monthly live 2-hr webinars through EOY 2023
- On-demand access anytime
- Audit support monthly
- Interesting and relevant topics

**This Series will ensure you fill in the gaps where free CPCEs are unavailable from topic list above.....
Family Law, PC IPV, PC Ethics**

Q/A



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