



Qualification Criteria and Responsibilities for Members of the AAA Judicial Settlement Conference Judicial Settlement Conference Panel

The American Arbitration Association® (AAA®) is the nation's leading provider of alternative dispute resolution services. The AAA is committed to offering a Judicial Settlement Conference Panel of former Judges in whom parties can have the utmost confidence, comprised of individuals with whom the Association has a strong and positive relationship. Admittance is based on caseload needs, user preferences and the Association's goal of a diverse, expert roster.

Qualification Criteria for Judicial Settlement Conference Judicial Settlement Conference Panel Arbitrators and Mediators

Members of the AAA Judicial Settlement Conference Judicial Settlement Conference Arbitration and Mediation Panel must meet or exceed the following criteria:

- Judges—Minimum of 10 years State Court or Federal Court experience with a high level of success conducting Settlement Conferences.
- Educational degrees and/or professional license(s) appropriate to the Neutral's field.
- Honors, awards, and citations.
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Experience—arbitration, mediation, or settlement conferences.
- Training in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).
- Membership in relevant business, trade, or professional associations.
- Other appropriate experience/activities (e.g. publications, speaking engagements).

Responsibilities

Members of the AAA Judicial Settlement Conference Panel must understand and support their responsibilities to the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process, the parties they serve, and the AAA. The responsibilities inherent in the role of a Neutral include:

Neutrality

- Freedom from bias and prejudice.
- Commitment to impartiality and objectivity.
- Ability to evaluate and apply legal, business, or trade principles.



Judicial Capacity

- Appropriate temperament—unbiased, patient, professional.
- Dispute resolution skills—ability to manage the hearing process.
- Thorough and impartial evaluation of testimony and other evidence.

Reputation

- Held in the highest regard by peers for integrity, fairness, and good judgment.
- Dedicated to upholding the *AAA Code of Ethics for Arbitrators and Model Standards of Conduct For Mediators*.

Commitment to ADR Process

- Willingness to devote time and effort when selected to serve, in accordance with the needs of the parties.
- Willingness to commit to speed, economy and a just resolution.
- Willingness to support efforts of the AAA and the policies and practices the AAA applies to best the field of ADR.
- Willingness to successfully complete annual training under the guidelines of the *Commercial Arbitration Development Program*.

The composition of the Roster of Neutrals is at the sole discretion of the AAA, including the selection and retention of arbitrators and mediators. Continuation on the Roster or an Industry Panel is subject to standard review based on service need, qualifications and performance, as deemed appropriate by the AAA. Neither acceptance to the Roster nor appointment to cases shall make any member of the Roster of Neutrals an employee, agent, or independent contractor of the AAA.