

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
VALUE MEDIATION PROGRAM
INFORMATION SHEET**

VALUE =Voluntary; Accessible; Low-Cost; Under \$100,000; Efficient

What is the VALUE Mediation Program?

Many members of the court's Civil Mediation Panel have generously agreed to provide reduced-cost "Value" mediations for certain general civil and probate cases. This program does not apply to family law.

Costs For eligible cases, VALUE mediators

- charge \$50 per hour per party for the first 3 hours, including 1 hour of pre-mediation service and 2 hours of mediation.
- may charge market or sliding scale rates for additional time if all parties sign an agreement before the mediation begins.
- may require deposits, cancelation fees, mileage and other costs.

Eligible cases

General civil and probate cases valued at \$100,000 or under.

If your case was not ordered to the free, court-ordered mediation program and the parties agreed to "voluntary" or "private" mediation, the Value Program is one option you may wish to try. Other options include

Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) (Riverside County Bar Association) – (951) 682-2132
Community Action Partnership (CAP) DisputeResolutionCenter – (951) 955-4900
Check the phone book and internet for "mediators."

Do I have a right to a Value mediation if my case is eligible? No.

The VALUE program is voluntary for parties - and for mediators. There is no guarantee that you will find a mediator who will accept your case as a Value Mediation. Mediators may reject any case without stating a reason, and they may reject the case as a Value Mediation and offer to accept it for market or sliding scale rates instead.

If you cannot find a mediator who will accept your case as a VALUE mediation, see the above options.

Who decides if my case is eligible for a Value mediation?

Each individual mediator decides if he/she will accept a case as a Value mediation. If one mediator says "no," keep trying.

Does the court refer cases to the Value Program? No.

How do I arrange a VALUE Mediation?

To find a mediator who offers "VALUE Mediations" [click here](#) and check the box for "Value Mediation."

Read the background information about the participating mediators. Contact the mediators of your choice and ask if they will accept your case as a Value mediation. Comply with the mediators' requests for information and documents.

Do I have to file any papers at court to start a Value Mediation? No.

What happens after the mediation?

If the case settles:

Plaintiff and cross-plaintiffs must file the [Notice of Settlement](#) and [Request for Dismissal](#).

If the case does not settle: Attend your next scheduled hearing.

All parties and counsel must submit **Post-Mediation Survey** within 10 days after the mediation. To complete the survey on-line, [click here](#).

For more information, contact the court's ADR Director at CourtADRDiretor@riverside.courts.ca.gov