

Understanding the timings, costs and process of financial mediation case

Below is an outline of the mediation process for cases that are financial only. This is a guide and timings and costs may vary depending on the complexity of the case. Cases regarding All Issues Mediation will have similar costs for document writing but the suggested timings might defer if Child arrangements are discussed.

Suggested Timings	Stages and Actions	Costs per person
MIAMS		
0-1 week	Client 1 (C1) attends a MIAM (Mediation Information & Assessment Meeting). This is conducted online via Zoom, WhatsApp video or another platform.	£150.00*
+1-3 weeks	Client 2 (C2) attends a MIAM (Mediation Information & Assessment Meeting). This is conducted online via Zoom, WhatsApp video or another platform.	£150.00*
PRE-MEDIATION		
+2-5 weeks	<p><i>Financial Schedule preparation:</i> The <u>Financial Questionnaire</u> will be sent to both participants and they will have on average 2 to 3 weeks to complete the document. Clients should email their Financial Questionnaire to the DMS admin team and this will be shared with the allocated mediator.</p> <p>At the same time, the admin team (or mediator) will schedule the initial joint mediation session. If the questionnaire is not received at least one week before the appointment, the admin team (or mediator) will cancel the appointment.</p> <p>The week before the joint session the mediator prepares the Open Financial Statement (OFS). They will continue to update it throughout the process.</p>	£300.00** (depending on complexity)
MEDIATION		
+0-2 weeks	<p>Session 1 – Joint mediation (2 hours) – C1 & C2 in attendance. The mediator will discuss agenda points put forward by both participants.</p> <p>The mediator will go through the Open Financial Statement (OFS) and check if full disclosure is required. If full disclosure is needed, the mediator will provide a list of the supporting financial documentation to be sent by both clients to the DMS admin team.</p>	£300.00***
+2-6 weeks	Session 2 – Joint mediation (2 hours) – C1 & C2 in attendance. The mediator will facilitate discussions to see if settled proposals can be agreed.	£150.00 per person per hour ***
FINALISATION		
+1-2 weeks	Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is created by the mediator based on the settled proposals made in mediation. This document with the OFS and supporting financial documents can then be taken to an independent solicitor or legal advisor to be written into a consent order.	£300.00****

* If a client is entitled to Legal Aid funding, there is no charge for the MIAM, Financial Schedule, Mediation Sessions or Memorandum of understanding. The Legal Aid funding will cover the MIAMS for both clients when at least one client is entitled to Legal Aid.

** Charges for the Financial Schedule only apply to private clients. There isn't any available funding for the drafting of this document and should be paid before mediation Session 1. Without payment for this, the mediator won't proceed to Session 1.

*** Charges for the mediation Session 1 might apply to private clients only.

**** Charges for the Memorandum of Understanding only apply to private clients. There isn't any available funding for the drafting of this document. Without payment for this, the mediator won't write the document.

