



Superior Court
Of Snohomish County

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 05-20

PARENTING SEMINAR STANDARDS

Adopted: August 15, 2003
Updated: February 12, 2020

The Snohomish County Superior Court hereby adopts the following standards for parenting seminars:

- A. **Parenting Seminars.** Where required by local court rule or by court order, parties shall participate in, and successfully complete, an approved parenting seminar within 60 days after service of a petition or initiating motion on the respondent.
- B. **Provider Agencies.** Approved Parenting Seminars shall be those offered by or approved by the Superior Court of any of the following counties: Snohomish, King, Pierce, Skagit or Whatcom.
- C. **Fees.** Each parent attending a seminar shall pay a fee charged by the approved provider agency. The seminar shall be conducted at no cost to the court.
- D. **Seminar Content.** The seminar content will be approved by the court, and may include: (1) the developmental stages of childhood; (2) stress indicators in children; (3) age appropriate expectations of children; (4) the impact of divorce on children; (5) the grief process; (6) reducing stress for children through an amicable divorce; (7) the long term impact of parental conflict on children; (8) visitation recommendations to enhance the child's relationship with both parents; (9) financial obligations of child rearing; (10) conflict management and dispute

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resolution; (11) communication skills for divorced parent; (12) practical skills for working together; and (13) the impact on children when stepparents and blended families enter their lives.

- E. **Qualification of Instructors** or Curriculum Developers. The court will consider the education and training of the individuals leading seminars, or developing a seminar's curriculum. The following credentials and experience are desired, but not required:
1. A Master's Degree in social work, psychology or other related behavioral science;
 2. Supervised experience in treatment of emotionally disturbed children, adolescents and their families;
 3. Experience in providing a wide range of mental health services to children and families, with specific experience in the areas of separation/divorce, loss and grief, and blended families;
 4. Extensive knowledge of child development, age appropriate expectations for children, and positive parenting;
 5. Experience in group treatment and/or facilitating classes and seminars;
 6. Ability to work with other agencies as part of a collaborative program; and
 7. Strong oral communication skills.

Dated this 19th day of February, 2020

BRUCE I. WEISS

Bruce I. Weiss, Presiding Judge

Supersedes: Updated February 12, 2020; Reformatted February 20, 2013- no change to content, Updated 12/12/06; 2003 Administrative Order Parenting Seminar Standards 05-06 no change in content – just renumbered; Adopted August 15, 2003