

## **How to Become a Parent Education Seminar Provider**

Virginia Code §§ [16.0-278.15](#) and [20-103](#) require that the mandatory parent education seminars be conducted by a “qualified” person or organization. The qualifications for these providers are contained in [House Document 26 \(2000\)](#). Qualified organizations include, but are not limited to, community services boards, court services units, accredited family service agencies, mental health facilities, law offices, and educational institutions.

Qualified providers must have both a professional background and specific expertise. Providers may be licensed/certified mental health practitioners, licensed clinical social workers, certified family mediators, lawyers, or educators. Providers should be able to demonstrate knowledge of child development, divorce/separation issues, issues involving domestic abuse and child abuse, and how to make appropriate referrals. Additional qualifications include experience in public speaking and teaching adult audiences.

To ensure that these qualifications are met, prospective providers must submit a resume for approval, attend a “training the trainer” seminar, observe a class conducted by a qualified provider, and have their seminar curriculum approved.

Upon fulfilling the qualification requirements, providers may be listed on the Virginia Judicial System’s website of Parent Education Seminar Providers.

To learn more about qualification procedures, please email [parenteducation@courts.state.va.us](mailto:parenteducation@courts.state.va.us) or call Dispute Resolution Services at 804-371-6065